FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

22 JANUARY 1985

Iran-Iraq War

The Iraqi Air Force hit three more "maritime targets" near Khark Island on 21 January, two of them in a "daring night raid," Iraq announced in official statements broadcast by Baghdad and Voice of the Masses radios. Commenting on the raids, which followed Iraqi attacks in the same area the previous night, Baghdad's *AL-THAWRAH* warned Iran that tankers will no longer be able to infiltrate under cover of darkness because the Iraqi Air Force has begun to raid targets by night with the same degree of efficiency as by day, according to INA. Iraq is tightening the siege of Khark Island and will bring Iranian oil exports to a "final halt," *AL-THAWRAH* contended. However, despite Iraq's claims to have hit 20 targets this month, the *GULF DAILY NEWS* said independent sources have only confirmed hits on 4 vessels.

In Baghdad, the Arab League's followup committee on the war warned that the Arab countries will be obliged to "reassess" their relations with Iran if the latter continues to prolong the war with Iraq. The committee's statement, which was carried by INA, also expressed concern that "some countries" are continuing to deal with Iran, particularly in the military field, thereby encouraging the prolongation and escalation of the war.

Lebanon

Sidon Explosion — Mustafa Sa'd, leader of the Nasirite Popular Organization, was among those wounded in a "strong explosion" at his home in Sidon on 21 January, Voice of Lebanon radio reported.

Al-Naqurah Talks — The 13th round of the Lebanese-Israeli military talks began 22 January in Al-Naqurah with a Lebanese demand for a detailed timetable of the IDF withdrawal to the international border, according to Jerusalem radio. The head of the Lebanese delegation, quoted by Jerusalem radio, said Lebanon would agree to UNIFIL deployment along the Al-Awwali River only if Israel withdraws to the international border. Following a special Cabinet session on 21 January, Prime Minister Rashid Karami stated in remarks broadcast by Beirut radio that Lebanon is prepared to make all necessary arrangements to ensure security after the Israeli withdrawal. Meanwhile, Israeli Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin, in an IDF radio interview, reemphasized the necessity of UNIFIL participation but added that the Israeli delegation would be unable to provide definite dates for the second and third phases of the withdrawal. In another report, a UNIFIL spokesman cited by *THE JERUSALEM POST* said the force had not received information on a possible extension of its role.

Syria

Syrian officials held "identical" views on all issues discussed with a visiting Supreme Soviet Presidium delegation led by Presidium Deputy Chairman Akil Salimov, Damascus radio reported. Meanwhile, CPSU Secretary General Konstantin Chernenko congratulated President Hafiz al-Asad on the latter's reelection as secretary general of the Syrian Ba'th Party's Central Committee during the party's recent congress. The Soviet leader's cable, which was broadcast by Damascus and Moscow radios, noted that Syrian-Soviet relations have gained "fresh impetus" as a result of Al-Asad's visit to Moscow last October.

The Ba'th Party's new Regional Command, a 21-man ruling body elected by the Central Committee, is headed by President al-Asad and also includes Rif'at al-Asad, the two other vice presidents, and defense chiefs Mustafa Talas and Hikmat al-Shihabi, according to Damascus radio. The command listed by the radio does not include Interior Minister Nasir al-Din Nasir, though he retains his place in the Central Committee.

Egypt

Relations With Jordan — Egyptian Foreign Minister 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid, in a statement to MENA, said he discussed regional developments and the Palestinian issue in his talks with Jordan's King Husayn in Amman.

Arrests of Communists — Twenty-two members of the "Trotskyite Organization" were arrested on 21 January, MENA announced. This follows a 10 January MENA report that 16 members of an "armed communist organization" were sentenced by the State Supreme Security Court.

Sudan

A Sudanese People's Liberation Army (SPLA) spokesman, in a statement to the clandestine SPLA radio, announced an "imminent attack" on Juba, capital of the Equatoria region. Meanwhile, the Equatoria governor denounced the Sudanese People's Liberation Movement and accused Libya and Ethiopia of providing the movement with support, according to SUNA.

Western Sahara

Moroccan King Hassan II intends to visit the Western Sahara, possibly on the 3 March anniversary of his accession to the throne, according to a Polisario statement cited by AFP. The statement said the Moroccans have begun major work to prepare for the visit, which has not been mentioned by Moroccan sources, the agency noted.

Saudi Arabia

King Fahd will visit the United States on 10 February in response to an invitation from U.S. President Ronald Reagan, Riyadh radio reported. Previewing the talks with Reagan, *AL-NADWAH* said that Fahd will focus on the Palestinian problem

and will brief the President on Saudi Arabia's firm support for the Palestinian people, according to WAKH.

In another development, an official Saudi source cited by Paris radio disclosed that the Kingdom is negotiating the purchase of 46 Mirage-2000 aircraft from France.

Iran

Relations With USSR — Iran is prepared to revive the joint economic committee with the USSR in order to improve bilateral coordination and create grounds for future cooperation, the Foreign Ministry's director general for foreign affairs told theSoviet ambassador during a 19 January meeting reported byIRNA. The proposal for the committee's revival came from the Soviet side, the agency noted.

Death of Ayatollah — Ahmad Khansari, one of the small group of "grand" ayatollahs, died on 18 January at the age of 98, according to an announcement by Tehran radio.

Pakistan

At an 18-19 January meeting in Abbotabad the 11-party Movement for Restoration of Democracy decided to boycott next month's general election unless it is held under the 1973 Constitution, according to Delhi radio. The radio later reported a presidential ban on further opposition party meetings.

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'Arafat Appeals to UN on Refugees in S. Lebanon

JN181710 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1617 GMT 18 Jan 85

[Text] Brother leader Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] has sent a message to UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar in which he appealed to the United Nations to protect Palestinian refugee camps in occupied southern Lebanon during the UN peace-keeping force's deployment in the areas from which the Zionist occupation forces will withdraw.

Brother leader Abu 'Ammar warned of new massacres similar to the Sabra and Shatila massacres, in which thousands of innocent Palestinian citizens perished. The message was conveyed to the UN secretary general by Zuhdi al-Tarazi, the PLO's permanent observer at the United Nations.

'Arafat Addresses PLO Fighters in Algeria

JN181721 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1617 GMT 18 Jan 85

[Text] Brother leader Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] has affirmed that the Zionist enemy was saved by Arabs twice within 9 years. The first time was through Al-Sadat's visit to Jerusalem and the second time was in 1982 when the Syrian regime agreed to a cease-fire with the Zionist enemy.

Addressing Palestine Liberation Army forces in Tebessa, Algeria, brother leader Abu 'Ammar said: I was surprised by the cease-fire decision which followed the meeting that the Syrian regime's leader, Hafiz al-Asad, had with U.S. mediator Philip Habib. Thus, the Syrian regime abandoned the Palestinian and Lebanese peoples.

'Arafat Receives Message From Mitterrand

JN181722 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1617 GMT 18 Jan 85

[Text] Brother leader Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] has received a message from French President Francois Mitterrand. According to WAFA, the French president said that he hoped that the Palestinian people's expectations and objectives will be achieved this year.

'Arafat Meets 'Aziz, Chedli Klibi in Baghdad

JN211733 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1530 GMT 21 Jan 85

[Text] Brother Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] received at his place of residence in Baghdad today Iraqi Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Tariq 'Aziz. They discussed the latest Arab and Palestinian developments. Abu 'Ammar reviewed the developments in the occupied homeland, our people's steadfastness in facing the arbitrary, repressive occupation policy, and their confrontation of the settlement plans of the occupation authorities.

Tariq 'Aziz reaffirmed Iraq's support for the Palestinian people under the PLO leadership, which is their sole and legitimate representative. He stressed the importance of the developed Iraqi-Palestinian relations and means of promoting them in the service of the Arab nation's aims of liberation and progress.

Brother Abu 'Ammar also received Arab League Secretary General Chedli Klibi, who is currently visiting Baghdad, and discussed Arab developments with him. They discussed the issue of smuggling and airlifting the Falasha Jews from Ethiopia to occupied Palestine, the need for the Arab League to expose the details of this hostile operation, and the necessary decisive stand against those who contributed to implementing it.

Brother Abu 'Ammar then received Kuwaiti Foreign Minister Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad, who is attending the Arab ministerial committee charged with following up the Iraqi-Iranian war currently meeting in Baghdad. Abu 'Ammar learned about the followup committee's efforts and stressed the need for serious, diligent endeavors to stop the Iraqi-Iranian war as soon as possible.

The three meetings were attended by Brother 'Azzam al-Ahmad, the PLO representative in Iraq.

Hawatimah Calls for Resuming Palestinian Dialogue

JN191902 Damascus Television Service in Arabic 1730 GMT 19 Jan 85

[Text] Nayif Hawatimah, secretary general of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine, has called for resuming the comprehensive Palestinian national dialogue and for strengthening Palestinian national unity.

In a television interview, Hawatimah said that the battle against Zionism and imperialism is a great one due to these forces' hostility toward the Palestinian people's rights to self-determination, repatriation, and the establishment of an independent state. He denounced the Reagan plan and the Jordanian regime's policy, particularly King Husayn's proposals to the Amman council.

Hawatimah on PLO Unity

GF210436 Doha QNA in Arabic 1900 GMT 20 Jan 85

[Excerpts] Damascus, 20 Jan (QNA) — DFLP Secretary General Nayif Hawatimah emphasized that the current year will be one to restore unity to the PLO and its independent decisionmaking. He invited all Palestinian factions to a roundtable for negotiations on the basis of the Aden-Algiers agreement in order to convene a PNC session during which unity will be restored and the outcome of the Amman meeting will be corrected.

In a statement to the QNA correspondent in Damascus, Hawatimah noted that the Democratic Alliance has held a number of meetings with a number of revolution factions out of commitment to PLO unity and legitimacy, and out of the rejection of any alternative organization. He stated that a preparatory meeting will be held in Algiers between the Democratic Alliance and the

Fatah Central Committee. Fatah is ready for comprehensive dialogue on the basis of the Aden-Algiers agreement, and this meeting will be a step to invite all the other Palestinian factions, he added. Hawatimah affirmed that the DFLP supports the initiative for a comprehensive dialogue and supports the idea of convening an extraordinary meeting to be attended by representatives of all Palestinian factions. He expressed the hope that efforts will succeed in bringing out PLO unity and independent national Palestinian decisionmaking through the PLO and its institutions.

Hawatimah emphasized the PLO's keenness to correct and improve its relations with Syria and for Arab solidarity on the basis of the resolutions of the Rabat and Fes summits which rejected the Camp David accords and U.S. President Ronald Reagan's proposals.

PNC Speaker on Dialogue With Jordan

JN210927 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic 21 Jan 85 pp 1, 20

[Excerpt] Amman — PNC Speaker Shaykh 'Abd al-Hamid al-Sa'ih has said that the Jordanian-Palestinian dialogue is the Palestinian leadership's focus of attention, and that during its meetings in Tunis, the leadership discussed this subject in full.

In an exclusive statement to *AL-DUSTUR*, Al-Sa'ih said that bad weather conditions prevented the PLO Executive Committee and the Fatah Central Committee from meeting, and consequently prevented the resumption of the Jordanian-Palestinian dialogue. However, he said, this dialogue is expected to be resumed shortly.

Regarding the convocation of the PLO Central Council, he said that this Council's members have been informed that once the PNC building in Amman is handed over, the necessary steps will be taken to hold a meeting of the PLO Central Council.

His eminence added that efforts are being exerted to achieve national unity in the Palestinian arena, and that the prevailing trends aim at rendering these efforts successful in accordance with the resolutions and the political statement of the 17th PNC session in Amman.

Shaykh 'Abd al-Hamid al-Sa'ih returned to Amman from Algiers the night before yesterday following an official visit of several days at the invitation of Rabih Bitat, president of the Algerian People's Assembly and member of the Algerian FLN Political Bureau.

Khalid al-Hasan on Palestinian Dialogue

JN211743 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1530 GMT 21 Jan 85

[Text] Fatah Central Committee member Khalid al-Hasan has said that any Palestinian dialogue should emanate from the resolutions of the 17th PNC session, which was held in Amman last November. In a statement published in Tunis, Khalid al-Hasan said that the PNC left the door open for the dialogue and left seats vacant for those who did not participate in the session, both in the PNC and the PLO Executive Committee. He added that the PNC formed a dialogue committee, which can begin its work at any time.

Khalid al-Hasan made it clear that the Fatah movement cannot go backward and begin a dialogue on the basis of the Aden-Algiers agreement, which had aimed to hold a PNC session in which all sides would take part, particularly those who had signed but did not abide by this agreement despite all the attempts which had continued up to a few days before the PNC was held. At that time, these sides proposed holding the PLO Executive Committee in Tunis, but they did not attend the meeting.

Khalid al-Hasan added further that despite all this, a dialogue based on the spirit of the Aden-Algiers agreement and on the basis of the PNC's 17th session will be welcomed by the Fatah movement, which is interested in maintaining the unity of Palestinian action and in preserving the various Palestinian bodies in order to bolster the status and efficiency of the PLO. Al-Hasan pointed out that the Fatah Central Committee is reviewing the work of the preparatory committee that is entrusted with preparing files for the Fatah general congress, which will be held during the first half of this year.

PLO's 'Abbas Arrives in Algiers for Dialogue

JN211748 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1530 GMT 21 Jan 85

[Text] Brother Mahmud 'Abbas, known as Abu Mazin, PLO Executive Committee member and chairman of the Palestinian dialogue committee, arrived in Algiers yesterday on an official visit during which he will meet with Yasir 'Abd Rabbuh, assistant secretary general of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine within the current contacts to begin a new round of Palestinian dialogue.

Within this context, Mahmud 'Abbas met with a Palestinian Communist Party delegation during his recent visit to Czechoslovakia. He exchanged views with the delegation on a new phase of constructive dialogue between the Fatah movement and the Palestinian Democratic Alliance.

Israeli Colonel Killed in Resistance Attack

JN181742 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1617 GMT 18 Jan 85

[Text] Palestinian and Lebanese nationalist men attacked a Zionist military position near Tyre in occupied southern Lebanon. The position received direct hits and all of the enemy soldiers were either killed or wounded in the machine gun and hand grenade attack.

A Zionist military spokesman admitted the attack. He said that a Zionist colonel named Avraham Elran died of his wounds and that six others were injured. The Zionist spokesman added that the Israeli forces besieged the area and carried out an extensive search for the resistance men, who withdrew safely to base.

Resistance Operations in S. Lebanon Reported
JN191739 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1620 GMT 19 Jan 85

[Text] The Palestinian and Lebanese nationalist resistance men have escalated their operations against the Zionist invasion forces and their agents in occupied southern Lebanon. Yesterday, the resistance men used machine guns and rockets to attack a military patrol belonging to the militias of agent Antoine Lahd while it was moving near the town of Dayr Qanun al-Nahr in the district of Tyre in occupied southern Lebanon. The daring attack resulted in the destruction of the agent patrol and all members of the patrol were either killed or wounded.

The resistance men also detonated high-explosive charges while a Zionist military vehicle was moving near the town of Jwayya in southern Lebanon. The explosion destroyed the vehicle and killed or injured all its occupants.

Last night, Palestinian and Lebanese nationalist resistance men fired Katyushas at a Zionist position in the area of Jubb Janin in occupied western Al-Biqa'. Direct hits were scored on the Zionist position and a number of Zionist personnel were either killed or wounded.

The resistance men also attacked a Zionist military patrol in the town of Al-Qasimiyah in occupied southern Lebanon. The attack, which was carried out with machine guns and RPG's, destroyed the patrol and killed or wounded its personnel.

The Zionist military spokesman admitted these four operations, but, as usual, he declined to mention losses. He said that the Israeli forces and their agents cordoned off the operation areas and launched a large-scale search campaign for the resistance men. However, these attempts were in vain.

Resistance Men Kill Israeli Collaborators
JN191746 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1620 GMT 19 Jan 85

[Text] In implementation of the decision the Palestinian and Lebanese nationalist resistance front have adopted regarding the liquidation of all Zionist enemy agents, resistance men liquidated agent Mahmud Sabburi in the city of Al-Nabatiyah last night after monitoring all his suspect movements. They planted an explosive charge in his car. The explosive charge went off immediately after he turned the ignition switch. The agent was killed immediately.

The resistance men liquidated another enemy agent after he made a statement to the enemy radio in which he said that he supports the Zionist-Lebanese dialogue and coexistence with Zionists.

The resistance men also killed a third Zionist agent in Al-Nabatiyah by planting an explosive charge in his car in front of his house. The explosion destroyed the car and killed the agent immediately.

Fedayeen Attack Israeli Patrol in Bethlehem
JN191717 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1620 GMT 19 Jan 85

[Text] In implementation of the Palestinian revolution command's decision to escalate military operations against the Zionist occupation forces in the occupied homeland, the main arena of struggle, our revolutionaries operating in the occupied homeland have detonated six incendiary bombs under a Zionist military patrol near the Al-Duhayshah camp in the Bethlehem area in the occupied West Bank. The explosions incinerated the Zionist patrol and its occupants.

The Zionist spokesman admitted our revolutionaries' daring attack and said that his forces cordoned off the area, closed the camp's main entrance, and arrested a large number of Palestinian citizens on the pretext of interrogating them.

OPEC Meeting on Prices Opens in Saudi Arabia

GF201934 Riyadh Television Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 20 Jan 85

[Text] The first meeting of the OPEC oil price differentials committee began in Riyadh today under Petroleum and Mineral Affairs Minister Ahmad Zaki Yamani. The committee includes, besides the Kingdom, Algeria, Kuwait, the UAE, Qatar, Libya, and Nigeria. Nigeria is represented in this meeting by Petroleum and Energy Minister Tam David-West.

During this meeting, the committee will put forward proposals which will be submitted to the OPEC oil ministers on oil price differentials. This meeting is important because it supersedes the upcoming meeting of oil-producing countries.

Kuwaiti Minister Discusses Oil Issues

GF181800 Manama WAKH in English 1530 GMT 18 Jan 85

[Text] Kuwait, Jan 18 (WAKH) — Kuwait's Oil and Finance Minister Shaykh 'Ali al-Khalifah al-Sabah said that Kuwait's proposal calling for adoption of an average price for various kinds of OPEC-produced crude was still tabled for negotiation.

Shaykh 'Ali, in an interview with the Kuwaiti daily *AL-WATAN* published here Friday, said that the proposal tabled during the December meeting of the organization stipulated mixing prices of various OPEC crudes and dividing the mixture by the kinds of oil produced by OPEC members. The resultant average price would then be adopted as the new official market price for the organization instead of the present light Arab crude, he explained.

The move aims to avoid any possible price reductions due to the sudden change in the price of a certain kind of crude, he said, adding that Kuwait will officially inform its customers of its new oil price following the upcoming OPEC ministerial council meeting on January 23. Kuwait oil importers have been informed unofficially, however, of the new price of $27.55 per barrel, he noted.

Shaykh 'Ali said that the Kuwait heavy crude prices were increased by 25 cents according to an OPEC agreement and highlighted that oil price differentials committee meeting scheduled for next Sunday in Riyadh will discuss this issue and will table recommendations to OPEC's ministerial council.

Any change on OPEC oil prices reached in that committee will no doubt affect the present oil market price of $29 per barrel, he said and underlined that he will be happy if the committee members were able to reach a new pricing structure resolving the oil differentials problem and at the same time maintaining the present market price.

Shaykh 'Ali said that he did not have the opportunity to follow up the OPEC oil monitoring committees endeavor, yet he noted that head of the committee had asked Kuwait on names of all oil tankers calling on the country during the present month of January and elaborated that other OPEC members were asked the same.

GULF AFFAIRS

AFP: Dutch Tug 'Slightly Damaged' in Central Gulf

NC221046 Paris AFP in English 1019 GMT 20 Jan 85

[Text] Manama, Bahrain, Jan 22 (AFP) — A small Dutch tug was attacked and slightly damaged in the central Gulf last night, regional shipping sources said today. Iraq had announced air attacks on two ships near Iran around the same time.

The salvage tug *Ribut*, owned by the Wijsmuller Company, was hit in the superstructure at midnight (2100 GMT Monday) midway between the Saudi and Iranian coasts, but continued towards Bahrain. There were no casualties.

Iraq said its two attacks last night, latest in a long series in its war with Iran, were on large- and medium-sized targets around midnight near Iran's Khark Island oil terminal.

The shipping sources today said the 100-ton West German supply ship *Bertram* had been hit and damaged near Khark Island last Saturday.

Attacks in Gulf Unconfirmed by Shipping Sources

GF220454 Manama GULF DAILY NEWS in English 22 Jan 85 p 1

[Excerpt] Iraq said last night its war-planes had hid a "large naval target" yesterday near Iran's Khark Island oil terminal. A military spokesman said in Baghdad that the target was "effectively and accurately" hit at 4.30 pm and that all Iraqi planes returned safely to base. It was the 13th target Iraq claimed to have hit in the Gulf so far this year but only four vessels have been confirmed hit by independent sources.

Iraq said on Sunday night its warplanes had hit three "naval targes" near Khark, two of them described as large and the other very large.

Shipping sources around the Gulf last night [said] they knew of no distress calls yesterday, nor could they confirm the other three attacks. The lack of confirmation could mean the Iraqi missiles struck "decoy barges" Iran has positioned around Khark to draw missiles away from their real targets. However, shipping sources say there is no hard evidence that any Iraqi missiles has actually been lured by the decoys.

The last confirmed hit was a small West German-owned supply ship, the 100-ton *Bertram*, which was damaged by a rocket near Khark on Saturday.

Iranian Decoy System Reported

GF200650 Manama GULF DAILY NEWS in English 20 Jan 85 p 1

[Excerpts] The Iranians are believed to have invented an ingenious decoy barge system to lure Iraqi missiles away from tankers near Khark Island, writes David Tucker. The barges, with specially-built steel structures on them, "bounce back" an amplified radar image to attacking warplanes whose pilots believe they have a supertanker on their radar screens. But instead of hitting the tankers putting in and out of Khark Island, the missiles explode on contact with the barges.

The Iraqis have claimed more than a dozen successful attacks in the past couple of weeks, but most have been unsubstantiated, with no distress calls being made.

Exocet missiles are fired from anything up to 50 kms away from their targets and in most cases the attacking pilots never see their victims.

The decoy principle has parallels with British operations in the Falklands War when helicopters dropped aluminium foil — known as chaff — to draw Argentinian missiles away from their intended targets.

OMAN

Reportage on Border Meetings With PDRY Officials

Officials Received by Interior Minister

GF200850 Muscat Domestic Service in Arabic 0700 GMT 20 Jan 85

[Text] Interior Minister Badr ibn Saud ibn Harib received today the heads of the delegations that are participating in the third meeting of the joint technical committee formed to mark the borders between the Sultanate and the PDRY. In addition to delegations from the Sultanate and the PDRY, the committee also includes delegations from Kuwait and the UAE.

Border Committee Talks Begin

GF200857 Muscat Domestic Service in Arabic 0700 GMT 20 Jan 85

[Text] The joint technical committee to mark the borders between the Sultanate and the PDRY began its third meeting at Al-Ghubrah guest palace today.

During this meeting, the Omani side was led by Shaykh Muhammad ibn 'Ali al-Qatabi, deputy minister of state and governor of Zufar; while the PDRY side was led by 'Abd al-Wasi' al-Sallam. Delegations from Kuwait and the UAE are also taking part in this meeting.

During the third meeting, the two sides are expected to continue to discuss the issues that were discussed at last year's meeting during which the two sides agreed on the importance of giving more time to study the submitted documents and memoranda.

This is the first time that the two sides are holding a meeting in one of the capitals of the two countries.

SAUDI ARABIA

King Fahd To Visit United States 10 Feb

GF190510 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 0400 GMT 19 Jan 85

[Text] In response to the official invitation His Majesty King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz has received from His Excellency U.S. President Ronald Reagan, it has been decided that his majesty, God save him, will visit the United States on Sunday, 10 February 1985. May God save his majesty and keep him for the good of the Arab and Islamic nation.

Dailies Comment on Visit

GF201810 Manama WAKH in English 1525 GMT 20 Jan 85

[From the press review]

[Excerpt] Manama, 20 Jan (WAKH) — Two Saudi newspapers commented editorially today on the upcoming visit of His Majesty King Fahd to Washington.

AL-MADINAH said the planned visit of the monarch to Washington and the upcoming visit of Crown Prince 'Abdallah to Algeria and France reflected the Saudi leadership's keenness and seriousness to tackle all important global issues and to have a say on them. The paper stressed the importance of the two visits in light of current events.

AL-NADWAH said the upcoming visit of His Majesty King Fahd to Washington in February will help to boost Arab and Islamic causes. It added that the Saudi monarch will review with his host President Reagan all international issues with special emphasis on the Palestinian problem and will brief him on Saudi Arabia's firm support of the Palestinian people and their cause.

It hailed the forthcoming visit of Crown Prince 'Abdallah to Algeria and France in the framework of the Saudi leadership efforts to rally support for Arab causes.

King Fahd Interviewed by French Magazine

PM210940 Casablanca LE MATIN DU SAHARA in French 10 Jan 85 pp 1, 3

[Reprint of interview with King Fahd of Saudi Arabia by *LE FIGARO MAGAZINE* special correspondent Robert Lacontre: "In an Interview With *LE FIGARO MAGAZINE* King Fahd declares: Islam Has Shown That It Is Capable of Living in Perfect Harmony With the Modern World" — date of interview not specified]

[Excerpts] King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz al Sa'ud received *LE FIGARO MAGAZINE'S* special correspondent Robert Lacontre in Riyadh recently and gave him an interview. Here is the text of that interview:

Question: Why is it, in your opinion, that Saudi Arabia, which is developing in the turmoil of the Middle East, is considered one of the stablest countries in the world, leaving aside the incident in Mecca?

Answer: The stability that Saudi Arabia enjoys is one of the blessings that God has bestowed upon us. The reason is to be found in the existence of Islamic law, which the Kingdom is committed to apply scrupulously and in conformity with the wise line pursued by King 'Abd al-'Aziz, the founder of the dynasty, God rest his soul!

The Great Mosque incident reaffirmed the application of Islamiclaw. Their misguidedness is proven by the fact that they chose to take over the Great Mosque and to prevent people from practicing their religion. The incident was settled there and then and the culprits were punished.

Question: Several experts claim that within 20 or 30 years the oil reserves will be exhausted. What is Your Majesty's opinion? In view of this, are you going to prepare for the post-oil period by vastly increasing your country's development programs?

Answer: I must first correct what you said about the exhaustion of the oil reserves. The official reports and accurate statistics available to us indicate that these reserves will not dry up for many decades to come. I should also like to say that there is nothing excessive in our country's development. All our activity geared toward this end is, in fact, the result of indepth and painstaking research. All the social and psychological factors have also been taken into account in this research. The financial and economic considerations are not isolated. We have had to adapt ourselves to the modern world, whose progress is continuous.

Thus, we were obliged to consider our potential, our social conditions, and our human capacities. Thus we have been able to profit from the opportunities afforded us to urbanize and develop our country. Thanks to God, we have been able to achieve much in this sphere, within the framework of our successive 5-year plans. The post-oil period, for its part, is the subject of close study. Obviously, the Kingdom is carefully channeling its efforts, particularly into exploiting its mineral resources and developing its agriculture and industry in order to guarantee its people a settled and comfortable life. The next stage will be concerned as far as possible with achieving self-sufficiency to reduce the number of imports on which the Kingdom depends. We beseech God to help us in this venture. Indeed, it is essential to ensure that diversification and the multiplication of our sources of revenue feature among our major objectives if we are to face up to the post-oil period properly.

Question: Can you foresee an end to the Iran-Iraq war?
Answer: Given all the factors surrounding the Gulf war, I continue to hope that the warring sides will be able to turn their attention toward peace and that the unceasing and sincere efforts geared toward this goal will be fruitful. It is my hope that reason and wisdom will prevail over impulse and passion: The two sides' losses in this war are considerable; continued fighting would be a veritable disaster. I believe that chances for peace still exist, but I fear that these chances will be squandered if this war continues at its present pace.

Question: Do you consider Islamic fundamentalism a necessary evil?

Answer: Islam is one and indivisible. It is a single entity which cannot be divided. Its substance is monotheism. Its "pillars" are known and accepted by all Muslims. Anyone who commits himself to accept the five pillars of Islam and to submit to the tenets of the law belongs to the Muslim nation.

Question: Critics are quick to claim that Saudi Arabia is a country whose regime is not keeping up with the times and that there are secret movements here preaching rigid conformity. There are also those who call for the presence of communist shaykhs. In addition, foreign workers, who now number about half as many as the Saudis themselves, present a real danger for the future. What are your views on this, Your Majesty?

Answer: Our regime is built upon the tenets of Islamic law, which is based on tolerance. Here we obediently follow our reforming predecessors. Our regime, which is based on religious principles, is scrupulously fair and is valid in all situations and for all ages. It is not incompatible with the spirit of the age, since the fundamentals of Islam are sound. We do not accept what is at variance with Islamic law.

You said that we are in the process of bringing a modern civilization under control. With God's help we shall be able to reconcile this civilization with Islamic law. The Saudi environment is unsuited to communism, since it is not prepared to accept it on either a religious or a sociological level. As for the foreign workers, the percentage you gave greatly overstates the real state of affairs. These workers are helping to build the country. Their presence is geared to this stage of development. Those who respect the country, its traditions, customs, and people will be welcome. Those who act otherwise are unwelcome. Any transgressor will face the full rigor of our law. (Immigrant workers have 2 or 3 year contracts.)

Question: Other critics claim that you finance any extremist movement provided it leaves you alone.

Answer: There is a great deal of slander. However, we should like to make it clear that our relations with others are governed by the tenets of Islam. The Holy Koran says: "Summon them to the path of your Lord with wise and fine words. Discuss with them in the best possible way." It goes without saying that we have nothing to do with the movements you described. We are firmly convinced that those who aid extremists are the first to suffer. That is why we oppose extremism of every shape and form.

Question: If I may be blunt, Your Majesty: Is it true that there are Arab leaders who, while pleading the Palestinian case in public, are privately opposed to the creation of an independent Palestinian state?

Answer: Our stance regarding the Palestinian cause is both relevant and explicit, and we have formulated it on countless occasions. We have always supported the legitimacy of the Palestinian people's cause. Our peace plan has become, since the Fes summit, an Arab plan in line with the decisions taken by the Arab leaders. The events taking place within the PLO are internal matters. We believe that the Palestinian leadership is working tirelessly to secure the Palestinian people's main purpose, namely, the recovery of their land and the establishment of a Palestinian state.

Question: Do you think that Israel may become more flexible in time? Might the Israelis decide one day to begin a dialogue with the PLO?

Answer: The Palestinian people's rights regarding their territory and homeland are immutable and are recognized as such by the international community. There have been several resolutions on this matter.

Sooner or later Israel will be obliged to comply with the international community's wishes, since the circumstances favorable to its intransigent postures will not last long, especially as Israel has now become a political, economic, and moral burden for the countries providing it with aid and assistance.

Question: Anyone can see that American policy is often erratic. First, Washington defended the shah in order to make Iran a Western bastion in Asia, then it abandoned him. Do you have any fears that the Americans may act likewise toward you?

Answer: We do not interfere in countries with which we have dealings whose policy is obscure or incomprehensible, since we endeavor to base any action which may affect common interests on clarity and openness. We reject everything which seems inconsistent with our religion, traditions, and customs. We are not afraid of defending the law.

Question: The USSR's policy is not far removed from that of the United States. The Soviets pose as defenders of the Arab countries, but they made no moves when the Israelis invaded Lebanon. Furthermore, we are aware that the Russians are creating unrest and instability in certain Arab countries in league with the fundamentalists.

Answer: The methods that certain countries, East or West, use regarding the developing countries' problems confirm the soundness of the direction that we have chosen, which is that it is essential to rely solely on God, on our own potential, and on the strength of our young men.

Our nation must show vigilance regarding the intrigues that have been hatched by people who lack all human conscience.

Question: In your opinion does France still have a role to play in the Middle East after its total failure in Lebanon?

Answer: We believe that a friendly French state does have a role to play. Its endeavors are always of significance. We hope that these efforts will continue.

Similarly, we hope that harmony and cooperation will persist and continue in such a way as to achieve security and stability in the region and banish the specter of war, which poses a significant danger to peace and the international community. Our trade relations for their part are progressing well.

Iraqi Oil Minister Arrives for Talks With Yamani

LD201333 Riyadh SPA in English 1203 GMT 20 Jan 85

[Text] Riyadh, Jan 20, SPA — Iraqi Oil Minister Qasim Ahmad Taqi arrived here last night on a visit to Saudi Arabia to deliver a message from Iraqi President Saddam Husayn to HM King Fahd dealing with bilateral relations and aspects of cooperation between them, particularly in the oil sector.

On arrival, Taqi told SPA that he will have talks with his Saudi counterpart Ahmad Zaki Yamani on the state of the oil market and the upcoming meeting of OPEC. Replying to a question on the oil market, Taqi expressed anxiety over the current oil conditions in the world and said he was confident that OPEC could overcome the current crisis.

Brunei Sultan Concludes Visit, Departs

GF201432 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 20 Jan 85

[Text] Hassanal Bolkiah, Sultan of Brunei, left Jeddah for London today following a visit to the Kingdom during which he performed minor pilgrimage and visited the Prophet's Mosque.

He was seen off by Salim Sunbul, director-general of the Foreign Ministry and protocol branch; 'Abd al-'Aziz (Jukhdar), director of the royal protocol branch; Major General Salih al-Sulayf, commander of the Western Province; Fu'ad al-Khatib, ICO assistant secretary general; (Dato Mukhtar Ahmad), the Malaysian ambassador to Saudi Arabia; and other officials.

UAE

Belgian Crown Prince Received by Deputy Prime Minister

GF201103 Abu Dhabi Domestic Service in Arabic 0930 GMT 20 Jan 85

[Text] Deputy Prime Minister Shaykh Hamdan ibn Muhammad received in his office today his Royal Highness Prince Albert, crown prince of the Kingdom of Belgium, who is currently visiting the country, and the members of the accompanying delegation.

The meeting was attended by Sayf al-Jarwan, minister of economy and trade, and Jacques Houard, Belgian ambassador to the UAE. During the meeting, Prince Albert conveyed a verbal message to UAE President Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan from King Baudouin I of Belgium on bilateral cooperation. The messsage also included another invitation to the president to visit Belgium.

Prince Albert also extended an official invitation to Shaykh Hamdan ibn Muhammad to visit Belgium. Shaykh Hamdan accepted the invitation. The date for the visit will be fixed later.

Shaykh Hamdan ibn Muhammad welcomed Prince Albert's visit to the UAE expressing hope that this visit will successfully develop the technical, economic and trade cooperation between the two countries.During the meeting, economic and trade relations between the two countries and the means to develop them in various fields were discussed.

Prince Albert stressed the importance of the economic, technological and technical cooperation agreement that was signed recently between the UAE and Belgium, pointing out that the visit of the delegation which he is leading and which includes more than 60 members of the Belgian Government and private sector, is aimed at implementing this agreement and at discovering new fields of cooperation between the two countries.

Cooperation Agreements Signed

GF201110 Abu Dhabi Domestic Service in Arabic 0930 GMT 20 Jan 85

[Excerpt] A session of official talks were held at the Ministry of Economy and Trade today, between the UAE delegation led by Sayf al-Jarwan, minister of economy and trade, and the Belgian delegation, led by His Royal Highness Prince Albert, crown prince of Belgium, who is currently visiting the country.

During this session, documents of the economic, trade and technical cooperation agreement between the UAE and the Belgian Luxembourg Economic Union, which was signed in Brussels in May 1984, were exchanged.

PDRY

Yemeni Leaders Continue Joint Meetings

GF191930 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 19 Jan 85

[Text] A fraternal meeting was held at the Secretariat of the Supreme People's Council Presidium today between Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, secretary general of the YSP Central Committee, chairman of the Supreme People's Council Presidium, and chairman of the Council of Ministers; and Brother 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president of the republic and secretary general of the General People's Congress in the northern part of the homeland.

During the meeting they discussed cooperation and coordination between the two parts of the homeland, means of bolstering the unity efforts, and a number of issues of mutual concern.

The meeting was attended on the southern part of the homeland by Brothers 'Abd al-Ghani 'Abd al-Qadir, member of the Political Bureau and secretary of the YSP Central Committee; Salih Muslih Qasim, member of the Political Bureau and minister of defense; 'Ali As'ad Muthana, member of the YSP Central Committee and director of the secretary general's office; 'Abd al-Qadir Jamal, candidate member of the YSP Central Committee and minister of industry; Mahmud 'Abdallah 'Ushaysh, minister of state; 'Abdallah 'Ali 'Ilaywah, first deputy minister of defense and chief of staff; Muhammad 'ali 'Inayah, deputy foreign minister; and a number of officials.

On the northern part the meeting was attended by Brothers Dr Hasan Maki, adviser to the president and member of the

Standing Committee; Mujahid Abu Shawarib, deputy premier for domestic affairs and member of the Standing Committee; Lieutenant Colonel 'Abdallah al-Bar al-Bakri, chief of staff and member of the Standing Committee; Yahya al-'Araki, minister of state for unity affairs; 'Ali al-Bahr, minister of state, chairman of the Petroleum and Mineral Resources Corporation, and member of the Standing Committee; Sinan Abu Luhum, member of the Constituent People's Council and member of the Standing Committee; 'Ali al-Ansi, director of the Republican Office; and other officials.

Visit Ta'izz in YAR

GF201414 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 20 Jan 85

[Excerpts] Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, secretary general of the YSP Central Committee, chairman of the Supreme People's Council Presidium, and chairman of the Council of Ministers, and Brother 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president of the republic, commander in chief of the armed forces, and secretary general of the General People's Congress in the northern part of the homeland, arrived in Ta'izz today from Aden. Their visit is within the framework of the brotherly meeting which began in Aden yesterday. During the meeting they discussed a number of issues of mutual concern and the continuation of efforts exerted by the leadership of both parts of the homeland to achieve unity for the homeland and people.

In statement to ANA, Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad said: It is our pleasure that Aden and Ta'izz host the fraternal meeting between the leadership of the two parts of the homeland. We will discuss with President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih a number of issues which concern the Yemeni people and their greater interests. The consultations which we held with him have affirmed our joint determination to follow the path chosen by our people for achieving unity between the two parts of the homeland.

Chairman Returns From Ta'izz

GF211316 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 21 Jan 85

[Excerpt] Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, secretary general of the YSP Central Committee, chairman of the Supreme People's Council Presidium, and chairman of the Council of Ministers, returned by land today from Ta'izz at the conclusion of his fraternal meetings in Aden and Ta'izz with his brother Colonel 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president of the republic, commander in chief of the Armed Forces, and secretary general of the General People's Congress in the northern part of the homeland.

Comments on Visit

GF211637 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 21 Jan 85

[From the "News and Comment" program by Ja'far 'Aydarus]

[Excerpts] Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, secretary general of the YSP Central Committee, chairman of the Supreme People's Council Presidium, and chairman of the Council of Ministers, has summarized the outcome of the consultations he held with his brother, Colonel 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president of the republic, commander in chief of the Armed Forces, and secretary general of the General People's Congress in the northern part of the homeland, and other officials. He said: These consultations affirm our common determination to continue the way our people have chosen to ensure success in the unity of the two parts of our homeland and to confront the plots and conspiracies of the enemies of our people, through which they are trying to undermine our people's security and our homeland's sovereignty and stability and to obstruct our efforts to restore Yemeni unity.

The brother chairman said: It is clear that hostile forces are making many attempts at all-out sabotage and plotting against the Yemeni national democratic forces and our Yemeni masses, who are aspiring for sovereignty, social progress, and unity. Our masses are able to thwart these enemy forces' attempts at sabotage and plotting against our people's national sovereignty, stability, and security.

Iran's Sheykh Ol-Eslam Arrives 21 Jan

GF211950 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 21 Jan 85

[Text] Hoseyn Sheykh ol-Eslam, Iranian deputy foreign minister, arrived in Aden today on a visit to our country within the framework of his tour of a number of Arab states. ANA reported that the Iranian deputy foreign minister is carrying a message to brother Dr 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Dali, member of the Political Bureau and foreign minister, from Iranian Foreign Minister Dr 'Ali Akbar Velayati on the hostile imperialist plans against the progressive regimes and on issues of mutual concern. The official was welcomed by Brother Muhammad 'Ali 'Imayah, deputy foreign minister; a number of Interior Ministry officials; and Iranian Ambassador in Aden Hasan Aminyan.

Foreign Minister Departs for Libya 19 Jan

GF191400 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 19 Jan 85

[Text] Brother Dr 'abd al-'Aziz al-Dali, member of the Political Bureau and foreign minister, left Aden for Libya today at the invitation of 'Ali 'Abd al-Salam al-Turayki, secretary of the General People's Committee for Foreign Liaison in Libya. During their talks, the two sides are expected to exchange views on bolstering bilateral relations.

YAR

Further Reportage on Visit of Iranian Delegation

Received by Vice President

GF191403 Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 19 Jan 85

[Text] 'Abd al-Karim al-'Arashi, vice president, chairman of the People's Constituent Council, member of the Standing Commit-

tee, and chairman of the Arab Parliamentary Union Council, today received the Iranian parliamentary delegation led by Hoseyn Sobhani-Neya, member of the Iranian Majlis, which is visiting the YAR. During the meeting, they exchanged views on issues on parliamentary matters.

Parliamentary Groups Hold Talks

GF191840 Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 19 Jan 85

[Text] The brother members of the national parliamentary group in the People's Constituent Council held a meeting today with the visiting Iranian parliamentary delegation led by Hoseyn Sobhani-Neya.

During the meeting, they exchanged views on parliamentary experiences in the two countries. The brother members of the parliamentary group informed the Iranian delegation of the steps which the YAR is making in the sphere of comprehensive legislation. They also exchanged views on technical cooperation between the two countries.

Iranian Delegation Departs

GF201800 Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 20 Jan 85

[Excerpt] The Iranian parliamentary delegation headed by Hoseyn Sobhani-Neya, Iranian Majlis deputy, left Sanaa this morning following a 4-day visit to our country.

'Arafat Speaks at Palestinian Parade in Sanaa

JN212022 [Editorial Report] Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic at 1553 GMT on 21 January carries a 46-minute recording of a speech by PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat at a Palestinian forces' parade in Sanaa on 19 January in which "symbolic units of the Palestinian Air Force took part for the first time." The announcer says it is a full recording of the speech, but when the recording begins 'Arafat is heard speaking on the Palestinians' experience in Lebanon.

'Arafat declares that the Israeli invasion of Lebanon could not liquidate the Palestinian revolution. He says: "I have the right to say that what is taking place in Lebanon is a U.S.-Israeli plot that has been approved by some Arab sides.

"I have the right to ask: How can we condone this plot? We fought Camp David and will fight Camp Murphy. We say to the Al-Naqurah negotiators: We will never allow the sectarian division plot to pass. This sectarian division of Lebanon is a plot that the Murphy agreement referred to. I call it Camp Murphy. This agreement makes two points: Preventing the return of the PLO fighters to southern Lebanon, and guaranteeing the security of the northern borders of the so-called Israeli state against the Palestinian fedayeen operations.

"I have the right to say that Camp David was a political blow, and Camp Murphy a military blow. We in the Palestinian revolution have taken a practical stand. Our Palestinian-Lebanese joint forces have foiled — and we are proud of this — the Al-Naqurah talks, which try to impose on our Arab nation a new Camp Murphy. I say this, my brothers, because the plot is very big."

Referring to the U.S. involvement in Lebanon, 'Arafat says: "Some of my friends say that Reagan keeps a picture my leaving Beirut, that he is keeping it in the Oval Office at the White House. He thought these fighters would be turned into refugees. I would like him to come and stand here and see how our brother fighters, in the land of fighters, in Yemen, are helping us to continue the revolution."

Speaking on the Arab situation, 'Arafat demands that Arab solidarity should begin with the end of the Iraqi-Iranian war. He calls on Iran to accept the proposals of the various international mediation teams. He says: "Egypt must return to assume its natural position in our nation away from Camp David policy. This was the demand of our PNC. I proudly salute my brothers who call for a summit of the Arab Maghreb states. This is because the Arab Maghreb will be a lever for our Mashriq. I tell my brothers in the Gulf and Saudi Arabia: We and they are in one trench; whatever befalls them will befall us. These forces are their forces and will defend every speck of this Arab soil. I turn to my friends in the socialist bloc led by our great friend the Soviet Union and say: We are heading — as dictated by circumstances — for an attempt at an international detente. I appeal to the Soviet Union, stemming from our friendship and the relations between us, to remember its friends, particularly the Palestinian friends, and not to forget them in these talks. I turn to my friends in the PRC and thank them for these weapons which have just passed before you. These weapons are a contribution from our brothers in the YAR and from our friends in the PRC."

'Arafat then expresses support for the Nonaligned Movement, the African states, and the Islamic states, which have supported the Palestinian cause. He then pays tribute to the Palestinians under Israeli occupation for their steadfastness.

Paying homage to the Palestinian martyrs, 'Arafat says: "Whenever a new U.S. President takes office, they rush to congratulate him and to beg him to work for a peaceful solution. My brothers, I tell you that a peaceful solution that is granted without blood is capitulation." He then says: "The solution can come from the continuation of confrontation on all fronts. We say this with pride. We say that we never ceased our friction with the Zionist enemy for a single moment."

Concluding his speech, 'Arafat salutes all the Palestinians, expressing confidence in final victory.

Makes Statement, Leaves

GF201836 Sanaa Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1600 GMT 20 Jan 85

[Text] Brother Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat], PLO Executive Committee chairman and commander in chief of the Palestinian

revolution forces, left Sanaa today following a 2-day visit to the YAR.

During the visit, he attended the Palestinian military parade which was held at the Sabra forces camp on the 20th anniversary of the armed Palestinian revolution.

In a predeparture statement to SABA', Abu 'Ammar said: I have participated with Brother 'Abd al-Karim al-'Arashi, vice president, chairman of the People's Constituent Council, and member of the Standing Committee; and my brothers, members of the Sabra and Shatilla forces and the Yarmuk forces in the celebrations of the beginning of the Palestinian revolution on the soil of the fraternal YAR.

Brother Abu 'Ammar pointed out that the military parade is an expression of the joint YAR-Palestinian stand in which — during the long march of the Palestinian revolution — numerous Yemeni heroes were martyred, together with their brothers the Lebanese and Palestinian heroes, on all battle fronts, inside and outside the occupied land.

Brother Abu 'Ammar also said that the embrace by the YAR president, government, and people of the Palestinian revolution has helped it to surmount the difficulties threatening to destroy it. This fraternal help has enabled it to remain strong despite all the conspiracies against it.

He was seen off by Brother Major Dayfullah (Sunaynah), head of the Republican Guard; Brother Hikmat Zayd, PLO representative in Sanaa; Lieutenant Colonel Abu Humayd, commander of the Sabra camp forces; and Brother 'Abdallah Abu (al-Hunud), head of Brother Abu 'Ammar's office; and Palestinian cadres in Sanaa.

Mubarak Delays Return to Egypt 18 January

Flies to Rome

NC182037 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2022 GMT 18 Jan 85

[Excerpt] Cairo, 18 Jan (MENA) — President Husni Mubarak's return to the homeland today was delayed because of unprecedented weather conditions prevailing in Egypt.

The plane carrying President Mubarak entered Egyptian airspace this morning but the crew decided it was too difficult to land due to the weather conditions and poor visibility at the airport. The crew then changed course and went to Rome where the plane will stay until weather conditions improve.

Meets Italy's Craxi, Pertini

NC182133 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 2100 GMT 18 Jan 85

[Text] Italian President Sandro Pertini received President Husni Mubarak at the presidential palace in Rome today.

President Mubarak held talks with Italian Prime Minister Bettino Craxi. The talks were attended by Foreign Minister Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid and Italian Foreign Minister Andreotti.

Mubarak said that the talks dwelt on the Palestinian issue. He added that the Italian prime minister told him that he will discuss the Palestinian issue with U.S. President Reagan during his forthcoming visit to Washington.

The Italian prime minister's office said that Italy will do its utmost to encourage peaceful initiatives in the Middle East.

Returns to Cairo

NC191614 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1545 GMT 19 Jan 85

[Text] Cairo, 19 Jan (MENA) — President Husni Mubarak and his wife returned to Cairo at 1645 today at the end of a 4-day visit to Greece and Italy.

Foreign Minister Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid; Dr Amal 'Uthman, minister of social insurance and social affairs; and Dr Kamal al-Janzuri, minister of planning and international cooperation returned on the same plane.

DPRK Foreign Minister Conducts 4-Day Visit

Arrives in Cairo

NC191346 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1255 GMT 19 Jan 85

[Text] Cairo, 19 Jan (MENA) — Kim Yong-nam, DPRK Workers Party Central Committee Politburo member, vice premier, and minister offoreign affairs, arrived in Cairo at noon today on a 4-day visit to Egypt at the invitation of Foreign Minister Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid. The Korean official has a message from DPRK President Kim Il-song for President Husni Mubarak.

Soon after his arrival, the Korean guest said that he will convey friendly greetings to President Mubarak from the Korean president. He added that there is a strong relationship between President Mubarak and President Kim Il-song, that President Mubarak has visited Korea twice and that he is well known to the Korean people. He went on: We are very pleased to be visiting Egypt, which has an ancient history and is a dear friend to us, in response to an invitation from Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid.

The Korean official stressed that his visit to Egypt is particularly important in bolstering bilateral ties of friendship and cooperation.

During his stay, the Korean visitor is scheduled to meet with a number of officials, including Prime Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali.

The Korean deputy prime minister will pay a similar visit to Yugoslavia at the end of his visit to Egypt.

Kim Yong-nam was received on arrival at the airport by Assistant Foreign Minister 'Umran al-Shafi'i, and DPRK Ambassador in Cairo O Chang-nim.

Meets With 'Abd al-Majid

NC192010 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1830 GMT 19 Jan 85

[Excerpt] Cairo, 19 Jan (MENA) — Talks were held between Egypt and the DPRK at the Foreign Ministry tonight. The Egptian side was headed by Foreign Minister Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid and the DPRK side was headed by Kim Yong-nam, the DPRK vice premier and minister of foreign affairs who arrived in Cairo earlier today. The Egyptian side to the talks included Assistant Foreign Minister Ambassador 'Umran al-Shafi'i; Muhyi al-Din Khafajah, director of the Economic Department at the Foreign Ministry; and Muhammad al-Dhu'aybi, director of the foreign minister's office. The DPRK side included the delegation accompanying the DPRK guest.

During the talks, a comprehensive review was made of the various international issues that concern both countries with special emphasis on some issues, primarily the Middle East issue, particularly the developments pertaining to the Palestinian and Lebanese questions, as well as the current efforts to motivate the peace process in the area. The talks also dealt with conditions in East Asia and the unification of the two Koreas in light of the recent developments regarding this issue.

The Egyptian-Korean talks also dealt with bilateral relations particularly in light of the relations that link the two people and the two leaders, namely, President Husni Mubarak and President Kim Il-song. The talks also touched upon attempts to enhance cooperation between the two countries in the various fields particularly in the technical and commercial fields.

2d Meeting With 'Abd al-Majid

NC201436 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1345 GMT 20 Jan 85

[Text] Cairo, 20 Jan (MENA) — The second and final round of official talks between Egypt and the DPRK took place this

afternoon at the Foreign Ministry. The Egyptian delegation was led by Foreign Minister Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid; the DPRK side was headed by Kim Yong-nam, DPRK vice premier and minister of foreign affairs, who is currently paying an official visit to Egypt.

During this session, the two parties completed their discussion of bilateral relations. Dr 'Abd al-Majid praised the positive development of these relations, particularly in the political, economic, and cultural fields. He pointed out the great steps made in these areas since President Husni Mubarak's visit to the DPRK in 1983.

During the session, Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid reviewed Egypt's foreign policy toward the Middle East; the efforts made to reach a just and comprehensive solution for the Palestinian people that will restore their legitimate rights, primarily their right to self-determination; and the need for a total and complete Israeli withdrawal from all Lebanese territories so that Lebanon may regain its independence and full sovereignty over all its land.

Dr 'Abd al-Majid also reviewed Egypt's policy as part of the Nonaligned Movement, South-South cooperation, and Egypt's support for the achievement of Korean unity through negotiations and within the framework of peace and cooperation.

Kim Yong-nam praised Egypt's policy in the Middle East, and applauded her efforts on behalf of peace, stability, and development in the region. He also praised the development of bilateral relations and the means of bolstering them in all fields.

Following the session, Kim Yong-nam made a statement to journalists. In his remarks, he described the discussions as extremely useful and cordial. He noted that the means of bolstering bilateral relations in various fields were discussed during the session, as were international issues of common interest. The DPRK and Egypt, he went on to say, are members of the Nonaligned Movement. Egypt is one of the founding members of the movement, which has now become a major political force in the international sphere. He added: During the talks, we exchanged views on strengthening the role of the Nonaligned Movement and on establishing cooperation between ourselves and Egypt in that respect. Agreement was reached on some points of this issue.

He said: We discussed the question of practical South-South cooperation and our views on this question were identical. The DPRK official noted that his talks in Cairo will contribute to the development and expansion of friendly and cooperative relations between the DPRK and Egypt in all fields.

Kim Yong-nam expressed hope that the Iraq-Iran war will end very soon in the interests of both peoples and in accordance with the principles of the Nonaligned Movement. He added that his country constantly calls for the peaceful resolution of conflicts within the Nonaligned Movement.

The DPRK official invited Dr 'Abd al-Majid to visit his country. The Egyptian foreign minister accepted the invitation. The date of his visit will be fixed later.

Received by Mubarak

NC210915 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0800 GMT 21 Jan 85

[Text] Cairo, 21 Jan (MENA) — President Mubarak received Kim Yong-nam, DPRK vice premier and minister of foreign affairs, at the Al-'Urubah Palace this morning. Kim Yong-nam arrived in Cairo Saturday on a few days' visit here. The meeting was attended by the DPRK ambassador in Cairo.

Makes Statement

NC211013 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0940 GMT 21 Jan 85

[Text] Cairo, 21 Jan (MENA) — Kim Yong-nam, DPRK vice premier and minister of foreign affairs, has stated that he conveyed greetings from DPRK President Kim Il-song to President Mubarak and that the latter asked him to convey cordial greetings to the DPRK president.

Following a 1-hour meeting with President Mubarak today, Kim Yong-nam said he held important talks with President Mubarak and that these talks helped develop and deepen bilateral relations of friendship and cooperation.

The DPRK visitor lauded the historic and strong relations between Egypt and the DPRK.

Confers With 'Ali

NC211403 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1358 GMT 21 Jan 85

[Text] Cairo, 21 Jan (MENA) — Prime Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali today met with Kim Yong-nam, DPRK vice premier and minister of foreign affairs, who is currently visiting Cairo. Current international issues, developments in the Middle East situation, and the means of developing relations were discussed during the meeting.

Gives AL-AKHBAR Interview

NC220633 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2220 GMT 21 Jan 85

[Text] Cairo, 21 Jan (MENA) — Kim Yong-nam, DPRK vice premier and minister of foreign affairs, praised President Mubarak's efforts for the establishment of peace in the Middle East.

In an interview with *AL-AKHBAR* to be published on 22 January, Kim Yong-nam said that President Mubarak is a prominent leader who enjoys a deep and comprehensive vision and that his policies are fully supported by the leaders and people of the DPRK.

He added that he brought a written message from President Kim Il-song to President Mubarak that deals with the issue of developing bilateral relations of friendship and cooperation in all fields.

Kim Yong-nam said that his country strongly supports the right of the Egyptian and other Arab people to achieve a just and permanent peace consistent with their will and aspirations

He added: We support and back all the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people and regard their just cause as our cause. We also regard Zionism as a common enemy to the Arab and Korean people.

The DPRK foreign minister affirmed that President Mubarak's efforts to end the danger of war and ensure peace in the Middle East are receiving tremendous support in the DPRK. He said: We support the proposal to declare the nuclear weapons in the same way we have been demanding its application in the Korean Peninsula [sentence as received].

Answering a question about the Korean problem, the establishment of peace in the Korean Peninsula, and the reunification of the two parts of Korea, Kim Yong-nam said: We support the establishment of peace and the reunification of the two parts of Korea peacefully and through the continuation of dialogue. However, South Korea places obstacles in the way of achieving this objective.

He added that more than a year ago, DPRK President Kim Il-song proposed to hold tripartite negotiations among the United States and the two parts of Korea to settle the problem, but we have not received a positive reply yet — albeit Washington has welcomed the proposal.

He pointed out that the DPRK broke off economic negotiations with South Korea, which were scheduled to begin on 17 January in the Panmunjom area, because of the joint military maneuvers that were to take place between U.S. and South Korean forces under the codename "Team Spirit 850." Some 200,000 troops were scheduled to participate in these maneuvers, which involve training in nuclear weapons — something that the DPRK regards as a threat to its security.

Asked about the circumstances under which peace can be established in the Korean Peninsula, he said his country demands that the armistice agreement, which was signed with the United States in 1953, be changed into a peace agreement. In order for this to be achieved, it is necessary to ease tension in the area, remove the threat of military confrontation, sign a mutual nonaggression declaration, and for the United States to fully participate in all the stages of the peaceful settlement of the Korean problem.

Concludes Visit

NC220957 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0940 GMT 22 Jan 85

[Text] Cairo, 22 Jan (MENA) — Kim Yong-nam, DPRK vice premier and minister of foreign affairs, left Cairo this morning following a 4-day visit to Egypt. During his visit, he was received by President Husni Mubarak and Prime Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali. He also held talks with Foreign Minister Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid on ways of bolstering bilateral relations. He was seen off at Cairo airport by Assistant Foreign Minister 'Imran al-Shafi'i.

'Abd al-Majid Delivers Message to Jordan

Leaves Cairo

NC210805 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0755 GMT 21 Jan 85

[Text] Cairo, 21 Jan (MENA) — Foreign Minister Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid left Cairo this morning for Amman with a message from President Husni Mubarak to King Husayn of Jordan about the latest developments as well as the recent contacts made by President Husni Mubarak on the Palestinian issue and the Middle East peace efforts. The foreign minister's visit is part of the ongoing coordination and consultation between the two countries.

Returns to Cairo

NC212136 Cairo Doemstic Service in Arabic 2100 GMT 21 Jan 85

[Excerpt] Foreign Minister Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid returned to Cairo this evening at the end of a short visit to Jordan. He stated that he will submit a comprehensive report to President Husni Mubarak on the results of the talks he held with King Husayn and Jordanian officials. He added that he received a message from his majesty King Husayn in reply to the message he delivered to the king from President Mubarak.

Information Minister Concludes West German Visit

Departs Munich

NC191411 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1335 GMT 19 Jan 85

[Text] Munich, 19 Jan (MENA) — Egyptian Information Minister Safwat al-Sharif left Munich for Cairo this afternoon after a week-long visit to the German state of Bavaria, during which he met with Dr Franz-Josef Strauss, chairman of the Christian Social Union and minister-president of Bavaria. Minister al-Sharif also signed two [number as received] information agreements during his visit.

In a predeparture statement, Safwat al-Sharif said that, during their meeting, Dr Strauss emphasized his confidence in President Husni Mubarak's wise leadership and policies, which constitute an element of safety in the explosive Middle East issue.

The information minister said that Dr Strauss also expressed the FRG's appreciation of Egypt's effective role in the Middle East, along with its efforts on the Arab and African levels. He added that Dr Strauss himself has witnessed firsthand the importance of Egypt's role and its prestige in his meetings and visits to many of the world's countries.

The information minister pointed out that an agreement was reached during his visit with the German (Hanzsidel) corporation by which a DM3 million grant will be extented to Egypt for developing and renovating the Nile information centers.

Safwat al-Sharif also noted that it was agreed to establish an institute for liaison and public opinion, serving Egyptian, Arab, and African information officials, and to send 40 Egyptian

information officials to the FRG annually for training in modern methods and advanced technical means of information processing. He said that it was also agreed to establish an information bank for use in bilateral cooperation.

The information minister also made note of a protocol establishing an Egyptian information week in Germany, during which Egyptian television programs and films dubbed in German will be presented. He said that an agreement was also reached on screening other Egyptian films on German television throughout the year, since German television can be viewed in many German-speaking countries, including Austria and Switzerland.

Returns to Cairo

NC192138 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 2100 GMT 19 Jan 85

[Text] Minister of Information Safwat al-Sharif returned to Cairo tonight following a 1-week visit to the FRG.

Al-Sharif said he held talks with Dr Franz-Joseph Strauss, minister-president of Bavaria, and exchanged views with him on the Middle East. He added that the minister-president of Bavaria will visit Egypt in April.

Al-Sharif said he conveyed a verbal message from President Husni Mubarak to Dr Franz-Joseph Strauss and that he carries a reply message.

Al-Sharif said that during his visit he met with several FRG ministers and held talks on the FRG financing of a data bank to serve the Egyptian news media.

'Extremist' Organization Discovered, Members Arrested

'Trotskyite' Members Arrested

NC220622 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2325 GMT 21 Jan 85

[Text] Cairo, 21 Jan (MENA) — Twenty-two members of an extremist communist group "The Trotskyite Organization" were arrested today and a search is underway for another eight members.

AL-AHRAM says in Tuesday's issue that during the past 2 weeks the police have detained 25 members of this organization. The state security prosecution is currently questioning them. The members include students, workers, teachers, a pharmacist, a journalist, and a translator.

The paper adds that a typewriter was discovered in one of the houses of the organization members. The typewriter was used in typing leaflets that attacked all religions and cast doubt about the very existence of God. Many leaflets, publications, and studies were also discovered dealing with the method of armed struggle, guerrilla warfare, the manufacture and use of incendiary bombs, and examples of world communist revolutions.

It transpires that the members of this extremist communist organization, which is bent on violence, were closely connected with the incidents that took place in Kafr Al-Dawwar and the events recently occurring in some of the universities. They also had a role in the call for boycotting the book fair.

The 22 defendants were referred, together with all the confiscated material, to the state security prosecution for questioning.

Rushdi Comments

NC182148 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2105 GMT 18 Jan 85

[Text] Cairo, 18 Jan (MENA) — Egyptian Interior Minister Ahmad Rushdi disclosed that a number of extremist organizations have recently been unearthed in Cairo, Alexandria, and Shubra al-Khaymah. An extremist leftist group, he said, was the latest to have been caught last week and a total of 25 persons have been arrested.

In an interview to be published by the weekly *AKHBAR AL-YAWM* on Saturday, Rushdi added that the prosecution is currently interrogating those arrested and that a 72-year old man has been released because of his age.

The interior minister emphasized that the application of the emergency law is not leveled against democracy but that it is in the interests of the Egyptian homeland and citizens. He added that there are security justifications for the law's continuation and that the police are applying it in the narrowest limits when necessary. The minister stressed that he would be the first to demand the rescission of the state of emergency law the very day when Egypt no longer needs it.

Regarding the British subjects involved in the case of [former Libyan Prime Minister] Al-Bakkush and whether Egypt intends to hand them over to the United Kingdom, the minister says that the case took place on Egyptian territory and that there is no justification at present to transfer the case or try it in Britain. He pointed out that this is a political and not a criminal case in the sense that the state acts according to its circumstances, interests, and what it deems fit.

AL-AKHBAR Views Reagan's 2d Term in Office

NC201033 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 0525 GMT 20 Jan 85

[From the press review]

[Text] *AL-AKHBAR* writes about Reagan's second term: In a few hours, U.S. President Ronald Reagan's second term of office begins amid expectations that this period will witness more definite U.S. positions on the resolution of the Middle East issue. *AL-AKHBAR* rhetorically asks: Why do we expect Reagan to take such positions in the coming term? It responds:

First, according to the U.S. Constitution, Reagan may not serve a third consecutive term and will therefore act with greater freedom from the expected pressures exerted by the Zionist lobby, without taking any alleged effect of this Zionist lobby in coming elections into consideration. In other words, President

Reagan will direct his attention to the need to secure a historic achievement in the context of this chronic problem.

The second reason is the promise that the U.S. Administration made to the Arab states before the presidential elections to exert its utmost effort if Reagan won, which has, in fact, happened.

Third, the United States, while endeavoring not to lose its credibility with the Arabs, must act in its capacity as one of the world's two major powers to prove its international influence by resolving the Arab-Israeli conflict, particularly since there are indications of impending Soviet interference. This has been made apparent in the diplomatic efforts to convene an international conference for peace in the Middle East.

The fourth reason is that Washington is currently preparing to receive two distinguished Arab leaders in February and March: Saudi King Fahd, who is expected to arrive in Washington on 11 February; and President Husni Mubarak, who will be visiting the United States in March. There is no doubt that these two visits represent a good opportunity for the U.S. Administration, and President Reagan himself, to prove their good intentions and define a practical position that can give impetus to peaceful efforts to resolve the Middle East issue.

AL-MUSAWWAR Urges Nuclear Parity With Israel

PM181550 Cairo AL-MUSAWWAR in Arabic 4 Jan 85 p 20,21

[Fumil Labib article: "These Are Fake Olive Branches Concealing Nuclear Power Stations Behind Them"]

[Text] I will not be taken in by a thousand Shi'mon Peres statements about peace, his wish to meet President Mubarak, or his invitation to King Husayn for negotiations. Nor will I believe Ezer Weizman's statement that, just as he believed in the possibility of defeating the Arabs when he was a military man, he now believes in the possibility of making peace with them. He even said that Israel has halted the peace process on barbed wire. Weizman can do nothing for peace, particularly since he is only a minister of state occupying a back seat in the Israeli Cabinet. Shim'on Peres cannot deceive me, or what Weizman says fool me. Indeed, I imagine that these outwardly innocent slogans are a screen concealing what Israel is now seeking through its purchase of two nuclear power plants from France, which will enable it to produce 50 1-megaton nuclear bombs, one of which is sufficient to reduce Cairo or Alexandria to rubble and leave their people either dead or maimed.

The optimistic statements emanating from Israel are fake olive branches and their leaves are synthetic. Israel's true intentions are to be found in those nuclear power plants and the bombs it possesses from the Dimonah nuclear reactor. Shim'on Peres has felt that some political commentators have begun sounding the alarm and warning of the dangers that the new nuclear reactors present to peace and the future in the Middle East. Therefore, following his meeting with French President Francois Mitterrand in Paris, which he visited for the first time in 20 years, he said: I regret the attempts to create the impression that the only purpose of my visit is to ask for nuclear power plants.

Such regret is fake too, because all the other reasons for which he went to Paris pale beside the obtaining of two nuclear power plants which will upset the balance of power in the Middle East. Yuval Ni'man, an Israeli nuclear scientist and a former minister, said that Israel will resist the introduction of nuclear weapons to the Middle East for fear that the Arabs might follow its example. If Israel begins introducing these weapons then the Arabs will immediately do the same. We recall that Israel was on the verge of using the nuclear bomb when it was faced with a shocking defeat in 1973. Although Israel did not use the bomb, the terror latent in it and the strength that Israel derives from it far exceed the strength and arrogance it derives from all the other arms in its possession.

It was because it realizes the meaning of the Arabs' possessing nuclear power that Israel destroyed the Iraqi nuclear reactor 4 years ago. This action was a mean and ugly surprise committed by Begin 3 days after meeting Anwar al-Sadat in Sharm al-Shaykh. The attack on the Iraqi reactor was perhaps the first reason for freezing relations between Egypt and Israel, because it revealed Israel's true intentions. Israel is lying in wait for any nuclear reactor built on Arab soil. Despite the fact that the Arab countries have signed the non-proliferation treaty, which gives the IAEA the right to inspect every nuclear reactor to ensure that it is being used for peaceful purposes, Israel refused to sign this treaty because it is living in a jungle of its own making and remains an outlaw among world countries. This subject reminds me of the heated democratic debate that tookplace in the parliament between the NDP and the Al-Wafd Party regarding nuclear reactors. Deputy 'Alawi Hafiz brought up the question of the danger to life these reactors pose. [Minister of Electricity and Energy] Engineer Mahir Abazah replied that nuclear power is inevitable as a substitute for the nonrenewable energy sources available to us.

So, Egypt, in view of the new circumstances arising from Israel's purchase of two nuclear reactors, should go ahead with the purchase of more nuclear reactors in order to maintain the nuclear balance between Egypt and Israel or, more comprehensively, between the Arabs and Israel. On one hand, we should not seek finance for the Egyptian nuclear reactors from the United States or from U.S. banks, but rather it is the duty of the Arabs to provide it before anything else and before any other country. On the other hand, I have learned that a major German company became involved in the competition to supply Egypt with nuclear reactors. The German company's offer included German Government financing. However, German treasury officials were subject to pressures from here and there, and so Germany declined to finance the German company. When President Husni Mubarak visited West Germany 2 months ago he raised the question of financing with Chancellor Kohl. The latter said that the study submitted by the Egyptian side was not convincing and that he would like to see another study, which he will put to an ad hoc financial committee that he will chair and will consist of Foreign Minister Genscher and a responsible official from the Ministry of Finance. Kohl said that he believes that a thorough study would lead to financing. Kohl wanted to please Husni Mubarak and to strengthen ties with Egypt. However, after 2 months the study has not been sent. I have learned that the German Government has more than once urged that the study be sent.

Iraqi Forces Hit Maritime Targets

Communique No 1,715

JN181735 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1700 GMT 18 Jan 85

[Communique No 1,715 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 18 January 1985]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Every day, our valiant Armed Forces mete out harsh punishment to those who harbor evil toward Iraq and its people. They are fulfilling their promise to their triumphant leader and great people and proving to the Iranian rulers, the preachers of sedition and ruination, that the only path left for them is to heed calls for peace and to desist from their policy of aggression. Otherwise, the Iraqi Army knows how to transform their remnants into ashes. The following is a summary of operations for last night and today:

1. Our Air Force planes launched a successful raid against a medium-sized maritime target near Khark Island at 1400 today, scoring accurate, effective hits. Our Air Force eagles returned safely with their planes after carrying out their 13th hit this year. God bless their heroism and their missions.

2. Within their efforts to harass the Khomeyniite forces, which the Iranian regime is dispatching to commit aggression against our people, and in order to inflict the gravest possible losses on these forces, our Air Force continued its raids on Iraq's enemies in the Maysan sector and east of Basra. Our daring eagles carried out 48 missions and returned safely and triumphantly to base, praise be to God.

3. With courage and great skill, a formation of our helicopter gunships attacked an enemy boat and a group attempting an ambush in the Maysan sector. They destroyed the boat and one machine gun and killed those in the ambush.

4. In order to inflict further losses on the enemy, our forward units directed artillery and tank fire against enemy forces east of Basra, inflicting massive losses in men and equipment. They destroyed nine infantry positions, one mortar emplacement, and two vehicles. Our forces damaged one vehicle and set a fuel tank and a number of other enemy positions on fire.

5. Our forward units engaged enemy positions and troops in the northern sector, destroying two infantry positions and burning a fuel tank.

6. One enemy observation post and one vehicle were destroyed in the Central sector.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 18 January 1985

Communique No 1,716

JN191732 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 19 Jan 85

[Communique No 1,716 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 19 January 1985]

[Text] The proud Iraqis are daily becoming stronger, more determined, and more steadfast. In the meantime, the victories of their heroic Armed Forces are increasing on land, at sea, and in the air, while the defeats of the aggressor Iranian rulers and their forces are continuing. The following is a roundup of the activities our victorious units carried out yesterday evening and today:

1. Our brave Armed Forces are continuing to tighten their siege of Khark Island and other Iranian ports. A large maritime target was spotted near Khark Island. Our heroic Air Force planes attacked it and delivered a strong and effective strike against it at 1745 [1445 GMT] today. All of our aircraft returned safely and victoriously to base, praise be to God. Our valiant Armed Forces will continue to deal devastating blows to the Iranian regime's supplies until it yields to the call of right and peace. It is almighty God who grants victory.

2. In the operational sector east of Basra enemy engineering activity and the movement of enemy personnel and vehicles were pounded with artillery, mortars, and other weapons. The strikes were violent and effective and inflicted losses in men and equipment on the enemy. The enemy also sustained the following losses: two dead, others wounded, and one vehicle carrying hardware and two infantry positions destroyed and set on fire.

3. Our artillery units directed their concentrated fire against enemy artillery and troop concentrations in the Maysan sector and managed to paralyze the enemy and to inflict losses in men and equipment. Elsewhere in the same sector, one enemy machine gun emplacement was destroyed.

4. Fleeing the hell of criminal Khomeyni and his sanguinary regime's tyranny, fresh groups of Iranian civilians sought refuge with our forward units in the northern sector of the operational theater. They were safely evacuated to the rear.

5. The vicious enemy has repeated its heinous crime against our people and mankind, thus violating the agreement reached under UN sponsorship. Yesterday evening, it shelled Al-Shihabi with heavy artillery, demolishing one house.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 19 January 1985

Communique No 1,717

JN201737 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1705 GMT 20 Jan 85

[Communique No 1,717 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 20 January 1985]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. The people's Armed Forces continue to deal heavy blows to the frustrated Khomeyniite forces in order to keep the pledge, cham

pion justice, and to ward off harm from the homeland of good and peace.

All the trends of evil and aggression will continue to suffer from the blows of our Armed Forces. The following are the results of the activities of our victorious Armed Forces for yesterday evening and today:

1. In reaffirmation of our Armed Forces' capability to confront Iraq's enemies, a formation of our forward units in the Central sector of the battlefield dealt intensive and successive blows to enemy troop concentrations and enemy positions and equipment, killing or wounding 50 soldiers and destroying 3 vehicles, one of which was carrying a 106-mm gun

2. A group of our valiant fighters intensively pounded an enemy boat in the operational sector east of Basra with all types of weapons, destroying the boat and killing or wounding seven enemy soldiers. In another area of the same sector, our forward units pounded enemy positions and weapon emplacements with their weapons, destroying one infantry position and one medium caliber machine gun position, setting fire to one hardware stockpile, and damaging one vehicle.

3. Continuing our able combat activities, several of our forward formations dealt effective and successive blows to enemy units opposite our forces' positions in the Maysan sector, inflicting on the enemy heavy losses in life and equipment, paralyzing enemy troop movements, and hampering the enemy's engineering activities.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 20 January 1985

Military Spokesman on Hits

JN202144 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 2115 GMT 20 Jan 85

[Unscheduled announcement]

[Text] Ladies and Gentlemen, we have just received the following:

A military spokesman has stated the following:

In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. The ignorant Iranian rulers who could not understand Iraq's wise patience and are unable to realize the humanitarian theme behind Iraq's call for peace, should, today and everyday, shoulder the consequences of their evil and the continuing siege of Iran's oil ports.

The hero sky hawks carried out a successful raid against three maritime targets near Khark Island. Two are big targets and the third is very big. The raid occurred at 2305 and 2306 [2005 and 2006 GMT] this evening. The sky hawks scored direct and effective hits and returned safely and triumphantly with their planes.

Through their heroic operations, our Armed Forces today embody Iraq's strength if it gets angry and its capability if it wills. The cliques of evil have no choice but to resort to right and accept peace. It is God who grants success.

[Dated] 20 January 1985

Fourth Target Hit 21 Jan

JN211805 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1705 GMT 21 Jan 85

[Communique No 1,718 issued by Iraqi Armed Forces General Command on 21 January 1985]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. With patience and faith in God, in the loftiness of the homeland, and in the dignity of the people, and with the determination of the sons who are loyal to the best nation on earth, the glorious staunch men of Iraq continue to inflict heavy losses on those who sought to harm Iraq and its people. The enemies will only sustain bitter defeat and humiliation at the hands of our valiant forces. This is the reward of those who practice injustice.

The following is a roundup of our valiant Armed Forces' activities for yesterday evening and today:

1. Our giant Air Force pursues its targets in the Arab Gulf waters night and day, reaffirming that Iraq's striking arm cannot be shackled. Our aircraft carried out an air raid against three maritime targets last night. Our planes hit two large maritime targets at 2305 [2005 GMT], and added a very large maritime target to their quarry at 2306 [2006 GMT]. All our planes returned safely and triumphantly. It is God who grants success.

2. The valiant aircraft of our Air Force carried out a successful and daring raid against a large maritime target at 1630 [1330 GMT] today, scoring an accurate and effective hit, thus making the total number of targets hit yesterday evening [as heard] and today reach four maritime targets. The number of maritime targets hit since the beginning of this year has reached 18 targets. Let this be a lesson to the base enemies of Iraq, and if they do not learn from this lesson, we will deal them, with God's help, more blows that will force them to listen to reason.

3. A force belonging to one of our forward units in the northern sector of the battlefield stormed several enemy positions, succeeded in reaching its targets, and opened fire from all kinds of weapons, killing 25 enemy troops, wounding many others, destroying 5 infantry positions, and inflicting other losses on enemy equipment and hardware. Cries for help were heard from the hit positions. All the member of the force returned safely to base, praise be to God.

4. Units belonging to our forward formations pounded enemy positions, troop concentrations, and enemy vehicles in the operational sector east of Basra, inflicting on the enemy losses in life and equipment, destroying one enemy infantry position, and killing five of its occupants.

5. Two personnel positions were destroyed and their occupants killed in the Central sector of the battlefield.

6. One hardware stockpile was destroyed in the Maysan sector.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 21 January 1985

Two Targets Attacked 21 Jan

JN220614 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 0400 GMT 22 Jan 85

[Text] A military spokesman has stated the following: in the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. The great accomplishments of our Air Force, Iraq's capable arm, are continuing daily, affirming that there is no way for the Iranian rulers to get rid of the tight cordon imposed on them by our valiant Armed Forces except by yielding to the will of justice, accepting peace, and opening the international maritime waterways for all parties.

In implementing the siege against the Iranian ports, the brave sky hawks launched a daring night raid against two maritime targets near Khark Island, one medium target and another large one, at 2400 tonight [2100 GMT 21 January], hitting them accurately and effectively.

Our pilots returned safely to base with their aircraft, thanks to God's protection. Blessed be the courage of men and blessed be their performance, which has become an example of audacity and good performance. We thank God for the victory.

[Dated] 22 January 1985

Commander on Military Strength, Arab Unity

JN190741 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0705 GMT 19 Jan 85

[Text] Baghdad, 19 Jan (INA) — An Iraqi military commander has stated that Iraqi forces are now capable of striking at areas deep inside Iranian territory. In a study published here today on Iraq's superiority and its impact on Arab affairs, Staff Major General Hamid Ahmad al-Ward said that Iraq's military power is increasing continuously in spite of the war circumstances. He explained that the Arabs can now depend on Iraq's strength to settle any difficult situation they may encounter in their struggle with their enemies. He added: This does not necessarily mean that a united Arab stand must be adopted in support of Iraq, which is facing an aggression directed against the Arab nation.

Staff Maj Gen al-Ward said that Iraq hopes the Arabs will take more serious steps to support Iraq in all fields to guarantee its steadfastness against the racist and colonialist onslaught. He added that the Iraqis also hope the Arabs will overcome weak points in their causes and settle accounts with those who collaborate with their enemies in a manner that will make them an international force that will have influence in the region and the world.

He said that the absence of a united Arab stand will encourage forces that are hostile to the Arabs to strike at many other Arab countries that are incapable of defending their sovereignty singlehandedly. He called on all the Arabs to learn a lesson from Iraq's experience, to depend on their own resources, and to deal with circumstances wisely and objectively in order to become more powerful and capable.

AL-THAWRAH on Attacks Against 'Maritime Targets'

JN220751 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0640 GMT 22 Jan 85

[Text] Baghdad, 22 Jan (INA) — The newspaper *AL-THAWRAH* has said that Iraq's siege of the Iranian ports on the Arab Gulf has entered a new stage of escalation with the advent of 1985.

In an editorial today, the paper says: The most important development that has the strongest impact on Iran's rulers is the fact that the Iraqi aircraft began to raid maritime targets day and night with the same degree of great efficiency, accuracy, and capability.

It warns all carriers and shipping companies that the targets which used to infiltrate under cover of darkness can no longer do so because they will be an easy target for the Iraqi aircraft. It emphasizes that as a result of this the Iranian rulers' ability to export their oil will diminish tangibly to the extent of a final halt to the supplies of aggression.

The paper points out that all evidence and information received from Iran indicate a reduction in the Iranian oil production and stifling and exacerbating economic impasse that is producing a tangled, complicated number of crises and deadlocks in all of the regime's utilities and establishments.

It asserts that the Iranian regime, which has so far kept silent over the results of the Iraqi strikes, will not hold out long in the face of the strangulating siege Iraq's men are tightening on the enemy. It adds that the Iranian rulers are completely unable to break or penetrate the Iraqi siege and that the Iranian regime's defeat has become a fact that cannot be concealed by the Iranian rulers' claims and empty threats.

Concluding, the paper stresses that Iraq will reply to the Iranian rulers' insistence on war with further serious and bitter strikes on the ground, at sea, and in the air.

Reportage on Arab League Followup Committee

Chedli Klibi Arrives

JN192111 Baghdad INA in Arabic 2055 GMT 19 Jan 85

[Text] Baghdad, 19 Jan (INA) — Arab League Secretary General Chedli Klibi arrived here tonight to participate in the meetings of the Arab committee charged with following up the developments of the Iraq-Iran war. In a statement to INA, Klibi said that the committee will discuss the various developments in the war between Iraq and Iran in addition to discussing the committee's working plan for the coming stage, particularly regarding pushing international efforts toward ending the war and achieving peace within the framework of international legitimacy.

Moroccan Foreign Minister Abdelouhid Belkziz also arrived in Baghdad for the same purpose.

Tariq 'Aziz, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, and Taha Yasin al-'Ali, Foreign Ministry under secretary, received them at the airport.

Kuwaiti Foreign Minister Arrives

JN191620 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1548 GMT 19 Jan 85

[Text] Baghdad, 19 Jan (INA) — Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jabir, Kuwaiti deputy prime minister and foreign minister, arrived in Baghdad this evening leading his country's delegation to the meetings of the Arab committee in charge of following up the developments of the Iraqi-Iranian war.

Tariq 'Aziz, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, and Taha Yasin al-'Ali, Foreign Ministry under secretary, received the Kuwaiti guest at the airport.

Jordanian Foreign Minister Arrives

JN201750 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 20 Jan 85

[Text] Jordanian Foreign Minister Tahir al-Masri arrived in Baghdad today to attend the meetings of the Arab committee charged with following up the developments of the Iraq-Iran war.

Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal also arrived in Baghdad to attend the meetings. Tariq 'Aziz, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, received the two ministers at the airport.

The Arab follow-up committee will discuss the developments in the war and the committee's working plan for the next stage, particularly in regard to pushing international efforts to end the war and to achieve peace within the framework of international legitimacy.

Committee Begins Meetings

JN201642 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1620 GMT 20 Jan 85

[Text] Baghdad, 20 Jan (INA) — The Arab committee charged with following up the developments of the Iraq-Iran war began meetings at the Foreign Ministry here this evening. The committee will discuss its past efforts and the measures it took along with various aspects of its working plan and future moves.

The committee comprises Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Iraq, Jordan, Tunisia, Morocco, and the YAR and was formed by the emergency ministerial meeting of the Arab League which convened in Baghdad in March last year.

Saddam Husayn Receives Members

JN211129 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1040 GMT 21 Jan 85

[Text] Baghdad, 21 Jan (INA) — President Saddam Husayn received the Arab League committee charged with following up the Iraqi-Iranian war developments.

Arab League Secretary General Chedli Klibi reviewed the committee's past activities and its plan of action during the next stage.

President Saddam Husayn expressed his appreciation for the committee's efforts and activities on both the Arab and international levels with the aim of establishing peace and implementing the resolutions of the Arab foreign ministers' conference in Baghdad last March. He stressed to the committee members the strength of the Iraqi front and Iraq's strong readiness to confront the Iranian regime's aggression.

Tariq 'Aziz, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, and Ahmad Husayn, director of the presidential office, attended the meeting.

Husayn Receives Saudi Minister

JN211149 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1048 GMT 21 Jan 85

[Text] Baghdad, 21 Jan (INA) — President Saddam Husayn this afternoon received Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal.

Prince Sa'ud conveyed a verbal message to the president from his Majesty King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz dealing with relations between the two fraternal countries and the Arab situation in general.

Tariq 'Aziz, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, and the president's secretary attended the meeting.

Committee Issues Statement

JN211357 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1220 GMT 21 Jan 85

[Text] Baghdad, 21 Jan (INA) — The Arab committee charged with following up the Iraqi-Iranian war developments concluded its work here today by issuing a political statement.

The committee emphasized the Arabs' solidarity with Iraq in its legitimate effort to repulse aggression and warned Iran that its continuation of the war will prompt the Arab countries to reconsider their relations with Iran.

The statement indicated that the foreign ministers of Iraq, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, Palestine [as received], Jordan, Morocco, the YAR, and Tunisia, in addition to Arab League Secretary General Chedli Klibi during their meeting had discussed the measures and initiatives that should be undertaken in the next stage. The statement indicated that the committee was acquainted with new information about Iran's preparations to launch a new aggression against Iraqi territories. The committee was also acquainted with the stands of various countries on the

continuation of the war and the extent of these countries' adherence to the resolutions of international organizations on the war headed by the United Nations.

The committee expressed deep sorrow and regret at Iran's stand on the war thus defying the resolutions of the United Nations, the Nonaligned Movement, the ICO, and other international organizations. The statement indicated that the committee noted that Iran insists on rejecting peace calls and various mediation. This is despite the fact that the Arab countries have not spared any effort to try to convince Iran to resort to reason and agree to the arbitration of international legitimacy in settling the conflict with Iraq.

In this regard the committee emphasized the Arab League Council resolution that was issued on the Council's fourth session in Baghdad in March last year. The resolution's fourth paragraph stipulated reaffirmation of commitment to the resolutions of the 12th Arab summit conference held in Fes that called for solidarity with Iraq in its legitimate endeavor to repulse the aggression. It also stipulated warning Iran that its insistence on continuing the war against Iraq, which is an Arab League member and has accepted all peace initiatives, can only prompt the Arab countries to reconsider its relations with Iran.

The committee expressed satisfaction with the understanding and response of a large number of countries to the region's requirments for peace and security. It noted that a number of countries continue to cooperate with Iran in various fields, particularly in the military field. It also noted that this encourages Iran to continue the war and escalate the conflict between the two countries with the subsequent heavy human and material losses to both sides in the dispute and the adverse impact on the interests of the region's countries and the international community at large. The committee reminded these countries of the UN, Nonaligned, ICO, and Fes resolutions that appeal for refraining from any measure that may directly or indirectly prolong the war. It urged these countries to exert efforts to facilitate this task.

The following is the text of the statement issued on the committee's meeting that began yesterday evening:

In accordance with the resolution adopted by the emergency Arab League Council session in Baghdad on Wednesday, 14 March 1984 on the war between Iraq and Iran, a resolution that stipulates the formation of a committee comprising the Jordanian, Tunisian, Saudi, Iraqi, Kuwaiti, Moroccan, and YAR foreign ministers in addition to the Arab League secretary general, and whose mission will be to follow up the implementation of this resolution and the developments of the situation resulting from the prolongation of this war, the committee held its fifth meeting in Baghdad on 20 and 21 January 1985, reviewed the resolutions it had made in its previous meetings and the result of the measures, initiatives, and international contacts it had undertaken in implementation of these resolutions.

The committee also reviewed the new developments in the situation in the region, became acquainted with the new available information about Iran's readiness to wage a new aggression against Iraqi territory, and acknowledged the stands adopted by various countries on the prolongation of the war as well as the extent of these countries' abidance by the resolutions adopted by international organizations on the war, particularly the United States.

After reviewing the issue from all its aspects, the committee expressed its deep regret and pain over Iran's insistence on its stand toward the war, thus defying UN resolutions and the peace initiatives by the Nonaligned Movement, the ICO, and other international bodies.

Noting that Iran insists on rejecting peace calls and the various mediations, and that Arab countries have spared no effort to convince Iran to resort to wisdom and accept the arbitration of international legitimacy in settling the dispute between it and Iraq, the committee cannot but reaffirm the resolution issued by the Arab League Council in its above-mentioned emergency session. The fourth paragraph of this resolution stipulates the reaffirmation of the commitment to the resolution adopted by the 12th Arab summit in Fes that expressed solidarity with Iraq in the latter's legitimate quest to repulse the aggression, and warns Iran that its prolongation of the war against Iraq, which is an Arab League member and has agreed to all peace initiatives, cannot but make Arab countries reassess their relations with it.

While expressing complete satisfaction with the understanding and response to the dictates of peace and security in the region shown by many countries, the committee also notes that some countries continue to deal with Iran in all fields, particularly in the military field. This encourages the prolongation of the war and the escalation of the dispute between the two countries not to mention the heavy losses in life and the material damages the two parties to the dispute will sustain as well as the negative impact this will have on the interests of the countries in the region and the international community.

The committee feels dutybound to remind these countries of the resolutions adopted by the United Nations, the Nonaligned Movement, the ICO, and the Fes summit calling on them to refrain from taking any measures that would contribute to the prolongation of the war in a direct or indirect manner. The committee also calls on these countries to exert efforts to facilitate the implementation of these resolutions.

During its meetings, the committee discussed the measures and initiatives it must undertake in the forhtcoming stage, and adopted several resolutions in this respect.

Committee Members Depart Baghdad

JN211745 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 21 Jan 85

[Text] Members of the Arab League Council committee charged with following up developments in the Iraq-Iran war left Baghdad this afternoon at the end of their 2-day meetings. Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jabir, Kuwaiti deputy prime minister and foreign minister; Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal, Saudi foreign minister; 'Abd al-Karim al-Iryani, YAR deputy prime minister and foreign minister; Tahir al-Masri, Jordanian foreign minister; Abdelouahid Bekkeziz, Moroccan foreign minister; (Al-Tayyib al-Suhbani), Tunisian Foreign Ministry under secretary; and

Chedli Klibi, secretary general of the Arab League, all left Baghdad today. They were seen off by Tariq 'Aziz, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, and the Saudi, Kuwait, Tunisian, and Moroccan ambassadors and the YAR charge d'affaires in Baghdad.

'Arafat Arrives in Baghdad, Meets With 'Aziz

Welcomed by Culture Minister

JN201431 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1430 GMT 20 Jan 85

[Text] Baghdad, 20 Jan (INA) — PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat arrived here at noon today on a visit to Iraq. During the visit, 'Arafat will hold talks with Iraqi officials on the situation in the Arab region and issues of mutual interest.

'Arafat was welcomed at the airport by Culture and Information Minister Latif Nusayyif Jasim, the Foreign Ministry under secretary, and the head and members of the liberation movements office in the Ba'th Party National Command.

'Arafat Departs Baghdad

JN211830 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1810 GMT 21 Jan 85

[Text] Baghdad, 21 Jan (INA) — PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat left Baghdad this evening at the end of a short visit to Iraq. During the visit, 'Arafat held talks with Tariq 'Aziz, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, on the good relations between the PLO and Iraq, the developments of the Iranian aggression against Iraq, and the current situation in the Arab region.

Yasir 'Arafat also held talks with Arab League Secretary General Chedli Klibi and Kuwaiti Foreign Minister Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jabir al-Sabah on the current Arab situation and the Palestinian cause.

Saddam Husayn Receives YAR Foreign Minister

JN211151 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1050 GMT 21 Jan 85

[Text] President Saddam Husayn received 'Abd al-Karim al-'Iryani, YAR deputy prime minister and foreign minister, today.

Al-'Iryani conveyed a verbal message to president Saddam Husayn from YAR President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih dealing with relations between the two fraternal countries and the Arab situation in general.

Tariq 'Aziz, deputy prime minister and foreign minister attended the meeting.

King Husayn Confers With UN's Urquhart 19 Jan

JN191830 Amman Television Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 19 Jan 85

[Text] This evening, His Majesty King Husayn received at Al-Nadwah Palace UN Under Secretary General Brian Urquhart. Urquhart explained to his majesty the UN efforts regarding Lebanon and the role that the United Nations can play during and after an Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon. During the meeting, they also reviewed the latest developments in the Middle East situation. Urquhart conveyed to His Majesty King Husayn UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar's greetings and expressed appreciation for his majesty's continued efforts to serve the cause of peace in the world in general and in the Middle East in particular.

The meeting was attended by Court Minister 'Adnan Abu 'Awdah, Foreign Minister Tahir al-Masri, and Jordan's permanent representative at the United Nations, 'Abdallah Salah.

Brian Urquhart arrived in Amman this evening and was received by Jordan's UN permanent representative, 'Abdallah Salah, and director of protocol at the Foreign Ministry, Aktham al-Qusus.

Egypt's Al-Majid Arrives, Makes Statement

JN211029 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1000 GMT 21 Jan 85

[Text] Egyptian Foreign Minister Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid arrived in Amman this morning on a short visit during which he will deliver a message to His Majesty King Husayn from Egyptian President Muhammad Husni Mubarak.

In a statement to the Jordanian News Agency, PETRA, Dr 'Abd al-Majid expressed his pleasure at visiting Jordan and said: It is a good opportunity to meet with His Majesty King Husayn and senior officials within the framework of contacts between the two countries' officials with a view to coordinating their joint stands.

He was welcomed at 'Alya' International Airport by Court Minister 'Adnan Abu 'Awdah, the Egyptian ambassador in Amman, the Egyptian Embassy staff, and the Jordanian Foreign Ministry's director of protocol.

Received by King Husayn

JN211253 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 21 Jan 85

[Excerpt] His Majesty King Husayn Received Egyptian Foreign Minister 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid at Al-Nadwah Palace this afternoon.

His Highness Crown Prince Hasan, the prime minister, the Royal Hashemite Court Chief, the court minister, the Jordanian Armed Forces commander in chief, the foreign minister, and the Egyptian ambassador in Amman attended the meeting which was interrupted by a working luncheon.

Brings Mubarak's Message

JN211638 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 21 Jan 85

[Excerpt] Amman — His Majesty King Husayn received Egyptian Foreign Minister Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid at Al-Nadwah Palace this afternoon. Dr 'Abd al-Majid conveyed to the king a message from Egyptian President Muhammad Husni Mubarak within the framework of the joint consultations between the two fraternal countries.

The message deals with the Arab efforts being exerted in the international arena and the Jordanian-Egyptian joint moves in the service of the Palestinian cause to achieve a just and honorable peace in the Middle East. The message also deals with reinforcing bilateral relations.

Makes Statement, Leaves

JN212121 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 2100 GMT 21 Jan 85

[Text] Egyptian Foreign Minister Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid left Amman tonight after conveying a message to His Majesty King Husayn from Egyptian President His Excellency Muhammad Husni Mubarak. In a predeparture statement, 'Abd al-Majid praised his visit's positive results and his meeting with His Majesty King Husayn and senior Jordanian officials in which Arab issues, particularly the Palestinian problem, were discussed.

Foreign Minister Tahir al-Masri met with Dr 'Abd al-Majid for some time shortly before the latter's departure. They discussed issues of joint interest.

He was seen off by Foreign Minister Tahir al-Masri, the Foreign Ministry's chief of protocol, Egyptian Ambassador Ihab Wahbah, and the embassy staff.

Carries Reply Message

JN212038 Amman Television Service in English 2000 GMT 21 Jan 85

[Text] Egyptian Foreign Minister Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid left Amman tonight. In a statement to Jordan television, the Egyptian minister praised the positive results of his visit. He said he was carrying a reply message from his majesty the king to President Mubarak. He added that there was full identity of views between the two countries.

He was seen off at the airport by the Foreign Minister Tahir al-Masri, the Egyptian ambassador, and other embassy officials.

MENA on Departure Statement

NC212059 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2032 GMT 21 Jan 85

[Text] Amman, 21 Jan (MENA) — Egyptian Foreign Minister Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid said before his departure from Amman this evening for Cairo that the nature of the joint Egyptian-

Jordanian activity primarily aims at continuing to promote the peace process in the area.

Dr 'Abd al-Majid said in a statement to the MENA correspondent in Amman that his meeting with King Husayn today provided an opportunity to discuss the recent Middle East developments and the Palestinian issue in light of President Mubarak's recent visits to Greece and Italy.

He said that King Husayn gave him a message for President Mubarak which he will deliver to his excellency after returning to Cairo this evening. He described the bilateral relations between the two countries as excellent. The leaderships in the two countries are eager to promote and strengthen these relations for the good of the two people.

Dr 'Abd al-Majid said that the leaders of the two countries feel the need to speed up the integration of relations between the two countries.

Before his departure from Amman, Dr 'Abd al-Majid held a tete-a-tete meeting with Jordanian Foreign Minister Tahir al-Masri in the residence of Ihab Wahbah, the Egyptian ambassador in Amman. The 1-hour meeting dealt with the relations between the two countries and the nature of the joint activity between the two countries in the future.

Dr 'Abd al-Majid was seen off at Amman airport by Jordanian Foreign Minister Tahir al-Masri.

Al-Majid on Amman Talks, Tabah

JN220850 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic 22 Jan 85 pp 1, 24

[Nizar al-Disi dispatch]

[Excerpts] Amman — *AL-DUSTUR* -PETRA — His Majesty King Husayn received Egyptian Foreign Minister Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid at Al-Nadwah Palace yesterday. Dr 'Abd al-Majid conveyed a message to the king from Egyptian President Muhammad Husni Mubarak within the framework of the joint consultations between the two fraternal countires.

In a statement to *AL-DUSTUR*, Dr 'Abd al-Majid said that he is carrying a reply message to Egyptian President Husni Mubarak from His Majesty King Husayn, and that he will deliver the message when he arrives in Cairo.

Dr 'Abd al-Majid declined to touch on the contents of President Mubarak's message to his majesty the king. However, he said that he would like to assure Arab citizens everywhere that the message stems from the two leaders' primary concern about the higher Arab interests.

Regarding the possibility of Jordanian-Egyptian political action in the near future on the Middle East issue and the Palestine question, 'Abd al-Majid stressed that the two countries are proceeding with a continuous political action.

Dr 'Abd al-Majid spoke about Egypt's relations with the PLO, and pointed out that Egypt has continuous contacts with the PLO officials. He said that Egypt considers the PNC convocation in Amman as a historic turning point for the PLO.

On the Tabah talks that will be resumed between Israeli and Egyptian delegations in the Al-'Arish next Sunday, Dr 'Abd al-Majid said that these talks are related to a dear part of the Egyptian territory. Therefore, Egypt is concerned with exerting all efforts to restore Tabah to Egyptian territory. He added that the coming talks will focus on implementing the 25 April 1982 agreement that was signed by Egypt, Israel, and the United States — an agreement regarding settling border problems through international arbitration. He pointed out that if these talks do not succeed in restoring Tabah to Egypt, then the Egyptian delegation to the talks will demand international arbitration.

Reportage on Al-Masri Statements, Activities

Iraqi-Iranian War

JN190724 Amman SAWT AL-SHA'B in Arabic 19 Jan 85 p 1

[Text] Amman — Foreign Minister Tahir al-Masri has said that the seven-member committee in charge of discussing the Iraqi-Iranian war will assess developments in the war and the stands of other countries on it. In an exclusive statement to *SAWT AL-SHA'B* yesterday, before leaving for Baghdad today in order to attend meetings of the seven-member committee that will begin tomorrow, Al-Masri added that a plan will be drawn for the committee's move in the coming stage within the framework of efforts aimed at stopping the war and putting an end to the Iranian aggression against Iraq.

Al-Masri explained that the committee will concentrate on reinforcing Arab support and cohesion with fraternal Iraq in its confrontation with the dangers and ambitions that threaten our nation and cause. He said: The committee will discuss the resolutions adopted by the Islamic foreign ministers with regard to the Iraqi-Iranian war.

U.S.-USSR Dialogue on Mideast

JN191532 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 19 Jan 85 p 1

[By Salamah B. Ni'mat, *JORDAN TIMES* staff reporter]

[Text] Amman — Foreign Minister Tahir al-Masri has described as "significant" Washington's announcement Wednesday that the United States and the Soviet Union have agreed to hold talks on the Middle East problem, but he said that it was too early for Jordan to comment on the development at this particular time.

The U.S. confirmation that it intends to hold a dialogue with Moscow on the Middle East as part of the two superpowers' consultations on the regional level is "significant," Mr. al-Masri said in a statement to the *JORDAN TIMES* Friday, "but the full implications (of the step) are not very clear yet," he said. The foreign minister said Jordan considers it "too early to comment" on the U.S. announcement," although we believe that the move

comes as a continuation of what President Reagan told the U.N. General Assembly last year."

Mr al-Masri was referring to a speech by President Reagan to the General Assembly last September in which he said Washington would be interested in holding "policy level" talks with the Soviet Union on various regional issues, including the Middle East confict.

The foreign minister recalled that shortly after the Reagan speech Jordan had outlined what it considers as the basic requirements for a political settlement to the Middle East confict. Mr. al-Masri himself addressed the General Assembly and said the most important of these requirements were "the restoration of the balance by and between the great powers vis-a-vis the Arab-Israeli conflict, as well as the establishment of a balance between the Arabs and Israel."

Confirming that Washington and Moscow will hold talks on the Middle East, President Reagan's national security adviser, Robert McFarlane, denied Wednesday that the agreement reflected any change in the Reagan administration's policy towards the Arab-Israeli conflict.

Mr McFarlane, who served as roving U.S. ambassador in the Middle East prior to his appointment as national security adviser, reiterated Washington's opposition to an international conference that would include the Soviet Union in Middle East diplomacy.

According to observers, it was not clear yet what the Washington announcement meant in terms of practical efforts for peace in the Middle East and whether the planned U.S.-Soviet dialogue would tackle the basic issues of dispute between the Arabs and Israel.

Asked to comment on Mr. McFarlane's statement, a number of Jordanian officials gave mixed reactions. "If the U.S. has agreed to hold talks with the Soviet Union, why not agree to hold such talks through the (projected) international conference?" said one official who preferred not to be named. "We believe the U.S. refusal (to hold the international conference) is not final, and there is still room for maneuver on this score," said another senior official, who also did not want to be named.

"We hope the latest move by the two superpowers is a precursor of a new international movement to solve the Palestinian problem," the official said. "Although our past experiences (with the U.S.) are not encouraging, we have to be optimistic that this experience, if consistent with the genuine search for movement in the area, will be different," he added. "The Europeans also appear to be playing a stronger role in the search for Middle East peace this time and in putting pressure on the Americans to move, and we are hopeful that combined efforts by the international community will improve chances for a settlement in the end."

The date and agenda for the planned U.S.-Soviet talks still remain to be fixed and the meeting would not be "a matter of formal negotiation," Mr. McFarlane said in his statment to an American television network. It would be "the kind of normal exchange that two countries would agree to have when they are trying to understand each other's point of view and perhaps some day narrow the differences," He said.

The U.S. stand at the talks would favor direct talks between the Arabs and Israel, Mr. McFarlane said, and that Washington would urge Moscow to put pressure "in a positive way on the states with whom they have some influence."

Condemns Ethiopian Jews' Emigration

JN191539 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 19 Jan 85

[Text] Amman — Foreign Minister Tahir al-Masri has stated that the Jordanian Government is seriously following up the emigration of Ethiopian Jews, Falashas, from Ethiopia to Israel. Responding to a question by a House of Representatives member during today's session, the foreign minister pointed out that the government is in close touch with the Arab League secretary general and other Arab countries in order to investigate this matter.

He added: We may demand a fact-finding mission be sent to countries from which the emigration started. He also stressed that the Jordanian Government is against any emigration of Jews from any Arab or foreign country. He added: We condemn such actions.

Leaves for Baghdad 20 Jan

JN200647 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 0500 GMT 20 Jan 85

[Excerpt] Foreign Minister Tahir al-Masri left Amman for Baghdad this morning to attend the meetings of the seven-member Arab committee for following up developments in the Iraq-Iran war. The meetings are scheduled to be held in Baghdad today.

The Jordanian delegation to these meetings include the Jordanian ambassador in Baghdad, Salih al-Kabariti, and a Foreign Ministry adviser.

AL-DUSTUR on President Reagan's Second Term

JN201020 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic 20 Jan 85 pp 1, 20

[Editorial: "A New U.S. Presidential Term"]

[Text] U.S. President Ronald Reagan officially begins his second term of office amid festivities and celebrations commensurate with his landslide victory over his Democratic opponent Walter Mondale in the presidential elections in November.

If President Reagan manages to complete this term, he will be the first U.S. President in over two decades to lead U.S. policy for 8 consecutive years. During that period, opponents from the two main parties took turns in the White House and they all sought to return to the presidency without success, except for Richard Nixon who was toppled by the Watergate scandal.

Away from expectations, the next 4 years will give President Reagan the opportunity to achieve a great deal for his country both on the domestic and foreign fronts without worrying about a return to the White House. This will pave the way to realistically attain solutions, which if successful, will immortalize their maker and place him among the ranks of past great American leaders.

While East-West relations are among the most prominent issues that await wise, far-sighted, and responsible treatment by President Reagan, the Middle East issue will undoubtedly occupy a prominent place on the list of priorities of major international issues. Moreover, the Middle East issue will, if fairly and justly settled, make President Reagan's name synonymous with courage, decisiveness, and perseverance — which should be the qualities of any U.S. official who undertakes to seriously approach an issue with such a serious impact on the world at large.

We do not believe that President Reagan, who will take the traditional oath on the steps of Congress tomorrow before leaving for the White House in a big parade, needs a great deal of time to revise and reopen the multitude of files on the Middle East crisis. He has had 4 years to deal with all aspects of this crisis and to hear the reports of numerous envoys and the opinions of experts and most of the region's leaders. This is an advantage President Reagan has over all newcomers to the White House.

Thus, we hope that, during his second term of office, President Reagan will be able to achieve for his country in world foreign policy all that is in harmony with his country's important and decisive role in war and peace. We also hope that the president, who signed a strategic alliance agreement with Israel, will be able to restore some of the Arab world's confidence in his country, as well as the credibility, which were lost during 4 years of complete bias toward Israel and its aggressive policy.

Layla Sharaf on U.S.-USSR Mideast Talks

JN191858 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1730 GMT 19 Jan 85

[Text] Brian Urquhart, UN under secretary general for political affairs, arrived in Amman from Beirut this afternoon. King Husayn will receive him. Urquhart's talks in the Jordanian capital are expected to deal with the latest developments in Lebanon and the political situation in the region in light of the U.S. Administration's announcement of an agreement with the Soviet Union to open a dialogue on the Middle East issue.

In this regard, it is noteworthy that Jordanian Information Minister Layla Sharaf today asserted that it is premature to comment on the influence of the forthcoming U.S.-Soviet dialogue. She added that the matter depends on the political priorities which will be adopted by the two superpowers. If Washington and Moscow decide to ease world tension in order to reach an agreement on armament questions, she said, then this will have positive results on the Middle East situation. However, she added, if the United States and the Soviet Union decide to divide the international zones of influence between them for the sake of agreeing on the question of armaments, then this will have negative reflections on the region.

Last Thursday, the White House said that the United States and the Soviet Union will exchange viewpoints on the Middle East issue.

Officials Deny Invitation to U.S. Jews

JN192145 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 2100 GMT 19 Jan 85

[Text] Amman — 'Ali Ghandur, chairman of the board of directors of Alia, the Royal Jordanian Airlines, has refuted a report broadcast by Israeli radio yesterday that Alia Airlines had invited a number of leaders of the Jewish community in the United States to visit Jordan in order to discuss the Middle East issue with members of the International Affairs Society in Amman. Ghandur said that this report was totally baseless.

PETRA has contacted Dr 'Abd al-Salam al-Majali, chairman of the International Affairs Society to obtain a comment on this report. He expressed astonishment and said that the society has no knowledge of such an invitation and that the report is baseless and aimed at creating confusion. He added that it is not in the society's traditions and objectives to hold such contacts with leaders of the Jewish community in the United States. He said that the society's objective is to open dialogue on issues concerning the Arab world in general with the friendly societies that sympathize with the Arab nation's issues.

Start of Israeli Withdrawal Reported

Activity in Sidon Noted

NC201206 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1140 GMT 20 Jan 85

[Excerpt] While Lebanon is preparing to resume the military negotiations in Al-Naqurah Tuesday, under UN auspices, to discuss the program for and dates of the phases of the Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon, news agencies have quoted the Israeli military spokesman as saying that the first operation in the withdrawal from Lebanon began this morning, and that the complete evacuation from the sector specified in the first phase in the direction of Al-Zahrani will be completed before 18 February, the date fixed by the Israeli Government.

In a dispatch from Sidon, the NATIONAL INFORMATION AGENCY correspondent says that an Israeli military convoy consisting of a large number of vehicles and armored cars has been seen withdrawing from Al-Awwali toward the south. An estimated 60 to 70 vehicles began to move at dawn on Sidon's main street toward Al-Zahrani to the south.

Equipment Withdrawn From Sidon

NC211103 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1000 GMT 21 Jan 85

[Text] Several enemy transport vehicles were seen this morning carrying logistic equipment from the Sidon area along a military route constructed by the Israeli forces from Mar Iliyas to 'Ayn al-Dilb, Miyah Wa Miyah, Darb al-Sin, Maghdushah, and then joining the coastal highway or Sharhabil Bin Hasna road, Kafr Falus, Lib'a, Jba', and Jazzin. The Israeli forces and members of the so-called army of southern Lebanon this morning cut the traffic in Al-Qayya'ah area on the Sidon-Jazzin road, probably to facilitate the passage of the withdrawing Israeli forces' convoys or for security reasons.

Al-Hajj Responds to Withdrawal

NC201325 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1215 GMT 20 Jan 85

[Excerpts] Information available to security officials and responsible authorities following developments in the south, clearly indicates that the Israelis are gathering their troops and logistical hardware. For several days the Israeli Army has been dismantling its clinics and workshops there.

A military source has told the Voice of Lebanon that the Army is ready to fill any security gap that might emerge in the near future. An informed source in Sidon said that a Lebanese Army delegation inspected the Sidon area yesterday, particularly naval and ground forts, to select sites for Army deployment there following the Israeli withdrawal.

Radio correspondent George Shahin has obtained an immediate response to the statements made by the Israeli spokesman on the withdrawal from Brigadier General Muhammad al-Hajj:

[Begin Shahin recording] In commenting on the Israeli spokesman's statement about the beginning of the withdrawal from the south, Brig Muhammad al-Hajj, head of the Lebanese negotiating team at the Al-Naqurah talks, today said the following to the Voice of Lebanon: As is known, the Israeli decision to pull out was made unilaterally, and anyone who makes a unilateral decision has to face all of the consequences. As for us, the Lebanese delegation at the Al-Naqurah talks, we have no obligations vis-a-vis this decision or its consequences. I said earlier, during the Al-Naqurah talks, that any Israeli decision to pull out unilaterally and without coordination will not benefit Israel, but will in fact only increase its burdens in the south.

On this occasion, Brig Muhammad al-Hajj appealed to the southerners to draw a lesson from what took place on the mountain following the uncoordinated withdrawal there, and called on them to overlook internal squabbles being fomented by other parties, so as to frustrate any plots against them. [end recording]

UN's Urquhart Discusses Israel Withdrawal With Leaders

RFL Reports Urquhart's Arrival

NC181501 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1445 GMT 18 Jan 85

[Text] Brian Urquhart, assistant UN secretary general, arrived in Beirut from Israel at 1530 today. He is scheduled to meet with Ambassador Fu'ad al-Turk, the Foreign Ministry secretary general, in the presence of Khalil Makkawi, the director of political affairs at the Foreign Ministry.

Urquhart Meets With Al-Turk

NC181935 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 18 Jan 85

[Text] Upon arriving in Beirut at 1700 today, UN Assistant Secretary General Brian Urquhart and his assistant Jean-Claude Aime proceeded to the Foreign Ministry where they met with Foreign Ministry Secretary General Ambassador Fu'ad al-Turk in the presence of Ambassadors Khalil Makkawi and Ghazi Shidqyaq and Counselor Farid 'Abbush.

After the meeting, Brian Urquhart said: The first phase of the Israeli withdrawal will be completed before the middle of February at the latest. Additional information has become available on the other two phases of the withdrawal.

Asked if the Israelis have agreed to set a timetable for the second and third phases of their withdrawal, Urquhart said: We discussed this matter with Ambassador al-Turk and I believe that we now have additional information about these two phases. I hope that all these matters will be clarified when the Al-Naqurah negotiations are resumed.

Asked if the negotiations will be resumed on Monday, Urquhart said: We proposed this to the Lebanese Government and it is up to the government to decide.

Asked if these negotiations will be resumed on Monday, Urquhart said [repeated question as heard]: This is what I proposed to the Lebanese side. Military withdrawal is a complex and protracted process. The transportation of equipment and gradual withdrawal have begun. The first phase will be completed by the middle of February at the latest. It will not take more than 5 weeks.

Finally, Urquhart was asked: What is the position of Damascus on the Israeli withdrawal program?

He replied: Ask Damascus.

Urquhart, Karami, Al-Jumayyil Confer

NC191216 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1140 GMT 19 Jan 85

[Text] Following his meeting today with President Shaykh Amin al-Jamayyil, Prime Minister Rashid Karami declared that the Al-Naqurah talks will resume on Tuesday. He also referred to his meetings today with [UN Assistant Secretary General] Urquhart and U.S. Ambassador Bartholomew. The following is a recording of a dialogue between Prime Minister Karami and journalists at the B'abda Palace a short while ago:

[Begin recording] [Karami] I met with Urquhart and discussed the latest reports following his visits to Damascus and Israel. I did not have much to say beyond what he said about the Israeli plan for withdrawal from the south. Therefore, we agree to attend the Al-Naqurah meeting. We consider Tuesday a convenient date to resume the talks. We will discuss the program and timetable for the withdrawal at the meeting. It is well known that the date for completion of the first stage has been set. As for the remaining two stages, the second may take place in April, and no specific date has been set for the third stage. We hope that all of these dates will be fixed during the official talks in Al-Naqurah. In light of this, we will adopt a positive position on the security arrangements that must be made to facilitate the withdrawal, in Lebanon's interest.

[Unidentified reporter] Mr Prime Minister, can it be said that Lebanon is ready to fill the void following the implementation of the first stage of the Israeli withdrawal?

[Karami] There is no doubt that this issue is a top priority. We are preparing in every possible way to fill any void that may be created by the Israeli withdrawal.

[Reporter] What was the purpose of your meeting today with U.S. Ambassador Barthlomew?

[Karami] I met with the U.S. ambassador to exchange views on the current atmosphere, particularly with regard to the sporadic actions taken against embassies and their staffs, the five kidnapped Americans, and the reported statements on their trial and investigation, and other issues that worry us. Such things affect Lebanon's relations at a time when we are waging a fierce battle to achieve Israel's withdrawal. As a country, Lebanon feels that its primary assets are its friendships, which must always be used to serve Lebanon's interests and goals. We will hold further contacts on all levels in an effort to stop anything that might disturb these relations or affect Lebanon's international reputation, because it is impermissible for people like this to be detained and treated in such a way as to further damage Lebanon's reputation. We hope, after the withdrawal issue clears and its implementatioon has began, that we will be in a position to begin to resolve the other issues.

[Reporter] On the appointment of a new governor for the Bank of Lebanon [words indistinct], do you expect to take measures to curb the rate of the dollar, which is soaring madly?

[Karami] After the appointment of the staff of the Central Bank of Lebanon and today's swearing-in is completed, they will begin to work. As you know, the situation is serious, and we hope that they will succeed in curbing the soaring price of the dollar and in strengthening the rate of the Lebanese pound. [end recording]

Urquhart Calls Talks 'Useful'

NC191234 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1202 GMT 19 Jan 85

[Text] Following his meeting today with President Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil and Prime Minister Rashid Karami, UN Under Secretary General Brian Urquhart said: As usual, the meeting with President Al-Jumayyil was useful and constructive. I will not say anything about its substance. We are still in the middle of the road and trying to make progress in the process involving Israel's withdrawal from south Lebanon. I think that an important element in this will be the next meeting in Al-Naqurah. I will travel to London to brief the UN secretary general on my talks here and the ideas we've discussed.

Urquhart noted that he has positive impressions about the situation, and that there are possibilities that must be considered in terms of the Israeli withdrawal.

Urquhart added that he will then go to New York, and then return to Beirut to resume his diplomatic efforts.

Urquhart, Aime Depart

NC191420 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1400 GMT 19 Jan 85

[Excerpt] Brian Urquhart, UN assistant secretary general for political affairs, left Beirut Airport for Tel Aviv some 30 minutes ago with his assistant Jean-Claude Aime to continue the task assigned him by UN Secretary General Perez de Cuellar, which is to organize the withdrawal of the Israeli forces from Lebanon.

Aime Returns to Beirut

NC211411 (Clandestine) Voice of Arab Lebanon in Arabic 1330 GMT 21 Jan 85

[Excerpt] UN special envoy Jean-Claude Aime returned to Beirut from occupied Jerusalem today. He is bringing with him the results of the discussions held by UN Assistant Secretary Gen-

eral Urquhart with enemy leaders on the Israeli withdrawal from south Lebanon.

Israeli Timetable Expected at Al-Naqurah Talks
NC221016 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0911 GMT 22 Jan 85

[Dispatch by NATIONAL INFORMATION AGENCY correspondent Antoine 'Awn from Al-Naqurah — live]

[Text] The meeting of the three military delegations began at approximately 1030 today in an unrelaxed atmosphere.

Staff Brigadier General Muhammad al-Hajj, head of the Lebanese delegation, told journalists that the Lebanese delegation will today learn the Israeli withdrawal timetable, in light of which Lebanon will declare its clear position, as stated by President al-Jumayyil in his address to the accredited diplomatic missions. Al-Hajj wondered whether Israel is currently withdrawing or redeploying its forces. We will know this today, he said.

Al-Hajj said that the Lebanese delegation is in Al-Naqurah today to discuss Israel's withdrawal from all Lebanese territory.

Regarding an expanded UNIFIL role, Al-Hajj stressed that when the Israelis withdraw and acknowledge the Lebanese Army's presence along the international border, Lebanon will have no problem with the UN forces. On the contrary, Lebanon supports every international effort, and thanks Mr Urquhart for this.

As for the attack against Engineer Mustafa Sa'd in Sidon yesterday, Al-Hajj holds Israel responsible because the area of the incident is under Israeli occupation.

Brigadier 'Amos Gilbo'a, head of the Israeli delegation, expressed the hope that today's talks will be objective, noting that they will deal with the decision to withdraw from Sidon and to hand over the area to the UN Forces and the Lebanese Army, as he said. This is the first working session in which the Israeli side deals with military details.

Meanwhile, a well informed Lebanese military source told the NATIONAL INFORMATION AGENCY that the Lebanese delegation will today insist on a complete timetable, and that it will hold the other side responsible for hindering the coastal and Iqlim al-Kharrub security plan, as well as for Sidon's security and the attack against Engineer Mustafa Sa'd, as the city was under the Israeli Forces' control.

The Lebanese source expects today's round of talks, which might be confined to one session, not to go beyond a reaffirmation of stances. The source does not expect the Israelis to present a detailed timetable for withdrawal. According to the same source, today's round of talks will not be the last.

It was observed that the Israeli delegation carried to the conference hall detailed maps of Sidon and areas in the northern Al-Litani line.

Karami on Withdrawal Timetable
NC201319 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1145 GMT 20 Jan 85

[Speech delivered by Prime Minister Rashid Karami after receiving a Bar Association delegation at his home in Tripoli on 20 January — recorded]

[Excerpts] I am happy to receive you on this beautiful morning. When one meets his brothers, he is happy, regardless of the difficult circumstances. One is happy just to meet, exchange views, and analyze developments connected with our interests and fate.

We don't deny the regrettable fact that concrete reality does not allow us to implement what we want or decide. We have been advocating security plans for months. Despite all the agreements on them, when implementation begins, things start to go wrong. This is due to the many conflicting parties. It is difficult to reconcile all the conflicting wishes and interests in a short period of time. We are trying to do so with patience and wisdom. This does not prevent me from saying that, thanks be to God, signs of progress and success in these steps have become evident and clear in Beirut, on the coastal line, on the Tripoli-Beirut road, and on the Beirut-Damascus road. This is truly cause for optimism. Therefore, I have been optimistic — and let every one hear me — I am more optimistic now. The worse the crisis becomes, the more reason there is to solve it. The Israeli occupation is the greatest crisis.

You are all aware that Israel has decided to withdraw in three stages. The program and timetable for these withdrawals are some of the matters which must be clarified and agreed upon. Therefore, we are going to Al-Naqurah on Tuesday so that this can be officially decided and agreed upon, and its implementation coordinated.

I can confirm — and this is what has been announced — that the first stage of the withdrawal will be completed by 18 February. The second stage will be completed in April. The third stage — or the final pullback beyond our international border with the enemy — is estimated to be completed within 5 to 8 months. At any rate, what we can be assured of to a great extent is that the withdrawal has become a reality. This is in fact a victory for Lebanon, as everyone is interested in and seeks to see his country liberated from this hated Israeli occupation.

There is the question of the detainees in Ansar. It appears that Ansar will be evacuated, since it is located in the area covered by the first withdrawal. Of course, the evacuation of the land should be preceded by the release of the people. I won't be divulging any secrets if I say that official Lebanon called on Urquhart yesterday to ask Israel to release the detainees in Ansar. We insist on this.

There are many deadlines. What we need are patience and work. As Lebanese citizens, we must be aware of our historic responsibilities so that we can face up to them with solidarity, unity, and with work that is both studied and planned. Our local and internal conflicts must not be the reason for the disruption of our march. This march, which seeks to restore Lebanon's sover-

eignty, freedom, unity, and legimitate authority, imposes greater responsibilities on everyone.

Birri Discusses Israeli Withdrawal, Other Issues
NC191834 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 19 Jan 85

[Text] Lawyer Nabih Birri, minister of state for southern Lebanon and reconstruction affairs, held a news conference this afternoon at which he discussed various security, political, and economic issues. He focused on the Israeli plan which aims to sow sedition among the citizens, whether in Sidon and its environs following the alleged withdrawal, or in Beirut through security flareups, through the huge hike in the price of the dollar, through the illegal forces reestablishing their control over the ports and customs and their collection of protection money, and through the Lebanese Forces' remaining on the coast road.

Minister Birri said: [Begin recording] We are witnessing the high point in the plot against Lebanon, with all its communities and areas. The Lebanese people have greatly suffered from the consequences of the Zionist onslaught on Lebanon. I will be frank. This brave people have been destined to suffer onslaughts on several levels, one of which is on the economic level represented by attempts to impoverish and starve the majority of the people. There are also persistent attempts to reestablish the contact lines between East Beirut and West Beirut, and to rekindle the fighting among the Lebanese in the capital.

The plot aims at foiling the coastal road security plan, and at creating sedition in Sidon and its environs following the alleged Israeli withdrawal. Beirut is required to play a role in implementing this plot; otherwise, how can we explain the security flareups, the opening of fire on East Beirut, the huge hike in the price of the dollar, caused by speculation by banks and the existence of a real mafia that plays with the price of the dollar. In addition to this, illegal forces have reestablished their control over the ports and customs and have started collecting protection money. Also the coastal road plan has not been implemented. The financial and psychological barriers have not been removed. The Lebanese Forces have remained on the coastal road. All this fits with this Israeli plan.

According to official information, the Israeli Mosad and their local agents are behind the spate of explosions in West Beirut. All these things raise the question, why now specifically? The answer is that Israel, following the Cabinet meeting on Sunday, submitted a so-called Israeli plan to withdraw from all of southern Lebanon.

If we examine this plan, we find it is divided into three stages. The first stage consists of an Israeli withdrawal from Sidon and its environs between 14 and 18 February. The second stage is without a time limit. The text of the Israeli decision says the Israeli Cabinet must decide the time and kind of withdrawal. The third stage is also without a time limit. Moreover, it mentions frankly that the area adjacent to Israel will be handed over to Lahd's army.

Therefore, the plan is not a withdrawal plan. It is a redeployment plan camouflaged by a real plot against the south and against the Lebanese national resistance for the following reasons:

1. The Lebanese Army will be prevented from reaching the Al-Awwali River. This is to foil the coastal road security plan. Lahd's army will be given orders to set up barricades in 'Alman and (Mahjar Rumayl). This will create a new Deversoir [reference to location in Egypt where Israel established a foothold in 1973 Arab-Israeli war] preventing the Lebanese Army from reaching Al-Awwali, and hence from deploying in any area evacuated by Israel.

2. Even before it withdraws in accordance with the first plan, Israel is fanning sedition in the areas from which it is to withdraw. Israel has actually commenced its activities in this respect. It supplied its agents, like Abu 'Aridah in Sidon, with three truckloads of arms 4 days ago. It also visited several southern villages and met with some mukhtars to warn them that the Lebanese and Lahd's forces will kill them, and requesting them to be armed. Israel then began (?rounding up) some innocent youths, disfiguring [tashwihihim] them, killing them, and then throwing their bodies in various areas — a matter that aroused expected sensitivities.

In addition to this, it has transported many of Lahd's forces and asked them to go to Majdalyun and to exert pressure on the Sidon barracks and the soldiers there to make them leave the area — a matter that will enable the Majdalyun soldiers to spread out in Sidon as instruments for sedition following Israel's withdrawal.

Israel will withdraw between 14 and 18 February; it might withdraw even before these two dates. It will then watch the results of what it has sown on the ground. When it sees that sedition has erupted in the Sidon area, it will have carried out its threat to world public opinion.

Hence, the Lebanese and others will either call for Israel to remain on the rest of the land or submit to Israel's request that the UN emergency forces be deployed in the area between the Al-Zahrani and Al-Litani Rivers this time. Israel will then ask the Israeli Cabinet to decide what Israel must do. Naturally, the decision will be to withdraw to the Al-Litani and keep the area between Al-Litani and the international borders.

This is the new plot. As for Al-Baruk, Israel (?plans) to remain there to exert pressure on Syria in a different manner. For this sedition and this plan to be implemented, the situation in Beirut, especially in West Beirut and its southern suburb, must be made to explode. Israel therefore unleashed its agents to carry out the bombings we are witnessing every day. Also earth ramparts and barricades have been set up again to create the old atmosphere in the capital.

As we are approaching 6 February, we must confront this plot with the spirit that prevailed among the Lebanese and nationalists. They are planning for things to happen in Sidon (?as) they seek to happen in Beirut — a matter which must increase our determination to implement the security plan in Beirut and to abide by the Cabinet decisions in this respect.

The parties and the national and Islamic forces, as well as the security commands that are conspiring either positively or by keeping quiet and being indifferent, should be responsible for what has taken place and is taking place. In this regard, I support everything His Excellency Minister Salim al-Huss said yesterday. The security commands' procrastination and indifference, which we are witnessing, aim at creating conflicts among the Lebanese themselves and developing them into religious conflicts even among the same community. This explains the background of the campaign to change one or two [militia] positions from Shi'ite-Phalangist into a Shi'te-Nationalist without this prejudicing the rights of any community.

In any case, a solution lies in the legitimate security organs' assumption of their full role in Beirut, in Sidon, and in the area lying between them, especially since all the leaders have approved of the plan and have placed themselves at the disposal of the legitimate authorities in this regard.

On this occasion I address an appeal to our kinfolk in the south, especially in Sidon — the capital, heart, and lungs of the south — to be alert to this plot and reject without reservation any substitute force that takes over security in Sidon other than the Lebanese Army and the Lebanese internal security forces. We are facing Israel, and there must be no reservation about confronting the Israeli enemy.

The Amal movement supports and backs this position. Moreover, it casts doubt on any other inclination or plan which it will confront. Joking about the subject of the south and the subject of confronting Israel is not permissible at all. This is particularly so because the Israeli Cabinet decision, as I said, frankly affirms its intention to retain a large part of southern Lebanon, turn it into a so-called border strip, and give it to Lahd.

As for recourse to the United Nations and the humanitarian and international organizations, regrettably this is no longer effective, as we used to hope and wish. The biggest proof is what is taking place at the Jabal 'Amil children's home in Burj al-Shamali, where there are over 800 children, most of them orphans, who have been surrounded by Israeli forces for 5 days. The Israeli forces have prevented food supplies from reaching them, after cutting electricity, which led to a water shortage. All these children now are suffering from hunger and thirst.

Today, Tyre staged a wonderful strike in denunciation of these practices. We have not heard one voice from the humanitarian and international organizations, which have not acted to stop this barbaric siege.

Last but not least, we cannot accept any Israeli plan. We demand an unconditional and comprehensive withdrawal from all Lebanese territory. The so-called Antoine Lahd is just another Israeli officer. Within this framework, it is important for me to explain to those who sometimes justly or unjustly called for his prosecution, that the Ministry of Justice started proceedings over 45 days ago against Antoine Lahd and filed a complaint with the public prosecutor charging him with high treason, sedition, murder, and infringement of the state's general security.

Al-Husayni on Israeli Withdrawals, Security
NC211421 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 21 Jan 85

[Text] Responding to a question today on the Israeli withdrawal, Speaker of the Chamber of Deputies Husayn al-Husayni said:

[Begin recording] [Al-Husayni] The national duty, naturally, dictates that this issue should be confronted with absolute seriousness. It is unacceptable that there should be any leniency regarding what has been planned and is being planned for us. I believe that the Lebanese people, particularly in the south, are vigilant enough to abort any attempts to sow sedition among the citizens. It is clear that it is the will of the Lebanese people to create a state of real security in the south, not to please anyone, but because this is, in my view, at the core of Lebanese interests.

Israel must stop claiming that the security of the Galilee and other areas is what prompted it to occupy our territory. We and the world know that Israel used this security as a pretext to occupy this territory. We have no option at all in this respect. All Lebanese, with all their factions and communities, have resolved to liberate their land and regain their sovereignty and independence regardless of the price. They have given Israel a great opportunity to withdraw, within the framework of international legitimacy and the mixed armistice commission, by applying the Security Council's resolutions, particularly Resolution 425. If Israel ignores this opportunity, then it would be responsible for the consequences of its action. We want to liberate our land, to regain our sovereignty and independence, and to establish security on our land. I believe that all are awarewe support international legitimacy and that we have requested its presence in our land. We have always expressed, and are still expressing, our gratitude to UNIFIL for their role. This is clear and will not be affected by Israel's allegations and portrayal to the world that we are against these forces and their deployment. If they deploy anywhere, they will do so according to our will and on the basis of an agreement between us and the United Nations. Israel has no connection with this matter.

The withdrawals have started. Israel must withdraw to the international border. We are not prepared to squander an inch of our territory.

[Unidentified reporter] Regarding the anticipated, positive results of the Al-Naqurah negotiations, which will be resumed tomorrow, do you believe that a timetable will be set for the remaining Israeli withdrawals, as has been announced?

[Al-Husayni] I wish to reiterate what I have previously said to the effect that there are no negotiations between us and Israel. Meetings are being held in Al-Naqurah within the framework of the Armistice Commission. Negotiations mean a prior realization that these negotiations are being held between two parties ready to make concessions. We have nothing to concede. It is our territory that is occupied. There are international resolutions that we want implemented. Therefore, there are meetings in Al-Naqurah. It is these meetings that provide Israel with the opportunity I referred to at the beginning of my statement.

[Unidentified reporter] [Passage indistinct]

[Al-Husayni] I have said and I reiterate that the establishment of security can be started through an agreement. This is logical. But to continue to keep this security so lax as to benefit Israel in confusing us when we are facing the deadlines, which Israel is arranging, is not in the national interests and is absolutely unacceptable. We must consolidate our ranks at home, and we must not enable Israel to disrupt our rear ranks. If we do not consolidate security in Beirut, we will always be subject to such confusions, tragedies, and pains, which the citizens are suffering.

[Unidentified reporter] What is the alternative?

[Al-Husayni] There is a security instrument represented by the forces of the legitimate authority. This government has come to agree among its members to provide this instrument. I am against any delay or hesitation in quickly providing this instrument. [end recording]

Democratic Front Statement on Israeli Withdrawal

NC181855 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1730 GMT 18 Jan 85

[Statement issued by the National Democratic Front on 18 January]

[Text] 1. Israel's decision to withdraw from occupied Lebanese land is primarily dictated by the heroic operations carried out by the Lebanese national resistance front. These operations have torpedoed the objectives of the Israeli invasion and have crushed the capitulatory and defeatist course of rightist reactionaries panting behind the U.S.-Israel solution.

The National Democratic Front urges all national forces to exercise more vigilance and caution to thwart the seditious scheme that aims at fomenting trouble in Sidon and the southern areas — which will be vacated by the Israeli forces — by stepping up resistance operations and consolidating national rank.

2. At a time when the national forces have displayed responsiveness to faciliate the Army deployment plan in the coastal strip, the Lebanese Forces — in coordination with Israel and Lahd's forces — are resorting to obstructing the implementation of this plan as well as the implementation of the second phase in the north that aims at removing the Phalangist-controlled Al-Barbarah roadblock.

3. After the wave of crimes, explosions, and booby-trapped cars, the responsibility of which is borne by Mosad and its agents in the Lebanese Forces, as well as by suspect organs, and after the proliferation of laxity in security in Beirut and Tripoli, the front stresses the need for all national forces to conduct a responsible review of the security situation and work out a plan, the responsibility of which should be assumed by all parties in the national rank.

4. The National Democratic Front holds the Phalangist regime, and the hegemonous factional course, responsible for the economic destruction and social catastrophe. It calls on all trade, social, cultural, and political functionaries to produce positive results during the conference on combatting the high cost of living.

5. The National Democratic Front reaffirms its support for the moves being carried out by the families of the kidnapped persons, holding the regime responsible for any procrastination in ending the kidnappings and the crimes being committed by the Phalangist forces as has been the case in northern Al-Matn.

It behooves the regime to storm the Phalangist cells instead of postponing the solution of the problem, which represents a mark of disgrace on the forehead of the fascist Phalangist hatred.

Nasirite Leader Mustafa Sa'd Injured in Explosion

VOL Reports Sidon Explosion

NC211801 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1730 GMT 21 Jan 85

[Excerpts] A strong explosion rocked Sidon and its suburbs at 1835 tonight. The explosion occurred near the southern entrance to the city, right near the house of Mustafa Sa'd [leader of the Nasirite popular organization (al-tanzim al-sha'bi al-nasiri)] in the Al-Barghut area. According to preliminary reports by our correspondent, the explosion caused a big fire and wounded about 20 persons including a relative of Mustafa Sa'd, who was critically wounded. Ambulances have rushed to move the wounded to hospitals.

Our correspondent now reports that Mustafa Sa'd, wounded in the explosion at his house in Sidon tonight, is in critical condition. Some people have said that it is likely he will be moved to a Beirut hospital.

Sa'd's Life Not in Danger

NC212024 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 2000 GMT 21 Jan 85

[Text] The latest reports received from Sidon say that struggler Mustafa Sa'd was taken 10 minutes ago to the American University Hospital in Beirut. His life is no longer in danger. His eyeswere injured. We have also learned that his wife sustained an injury to one eye.

Sa'd Evacuated to Paris

NC220620 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0400 GMT 22 Jan 85

[Text] A private plane belonging to Rafiq al-Hariri took off 15 minutes ago for Paris carrying Mustafa Sa'd and his wife to complete their treatment. The American University Hospital in Beirut reported this morning that Sa'd's condition and that of his wife improved, and that his transfer to Paris came at the request of doctors who recommended that he continue his treatment there.

Explosion Leave 3 Dead

NC220647 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0515 GMT 22 Jan 85

[Excerpts] Successive security and political events have been taking place since the horrendous explosion that rocked Sidon yesterday — an explosion that left dozens of casualties including Mustafa Sa'd. Painstaking political efforts have been made to implement steps bound to fill any vacuum that might emerge in the wake of the Israeli decision to carry out the first phase of withdrawals. Moreover, the Lebanese negotiator is getting ready for the 13th round of negotiations which will be resumed at Al-Naqurah today amid international signs that some progress might be achieved.

A huge explosion was targeted against the Al-'Alali building which houses the residence of Engineer Mustafa Sa'd. The four-story building collapsed and Sa'd was seriously injured. He was moved to the Hammud Hospital, and from there to the American University Hospital. Sa'd was moved to France this morning due to his critical condition. Medical reports indicate that Sa'd lost his sight due to the grave injuries to his head.

Our correspondent this morning reported that the explosion left 3 persons dead and 50 others wounded.

Cabinet Holds Special Session To Discuss Withdrawals

Military, Intelligence Representatives Attend

NC211833 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1715 GMT 21 Jan 85

[Excerpts] The Cabinet has been meeting in an extraordinary session for approximately 2 hours now. It is discussing the security situation as a whole to achieve a clearer picture on ways of consolidating and stabilizing security, particularly now that the Israeli withdrawal from Sidon area has actually started. It has become the duty of all to unite to confront this withdrawal to avoid any negative results.

So that the discussions and decisions should be objective at the Cabinet meeting, the Army commander and chief of staff have been summoned to attend. The director of intelligence and his deputy had preceded them to B'abda Palace. It has been noted that they carried maps with them. Later, the parties concerned with the coastal plan were asked to send representatives. Dr George Sa'adah, Dr Fu'ad Abu Nadir, and Dr George Abu Ghanim presented themselves on behalf of the Phalange Party and the Lebanese Forces. Akram Shuhayyib attended on behalf of the socialists. It has been reported that Marwan Hamadah is abroad.

Former President Sham'un left the session at 1845. He emphasized that the Army will complete its deployment in Iqlim al-Kharrub and on the outskirts of Sidon. He said that the discussion is serious, adding: We dealt with the possible consequences of the Israeli withdrawals. We stressed the possible consequences of the phased withdrawals and the precautions which must be taken to ensure sound results.

Session Ends; Karami Statement

NC212017 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 21 Jan 85

[Text] The Cabinet's special session ended at 2015 tonight. The session began at 1700 under the chairmanship of President Amin al-Jumayyil, and in the presence of Prime Minister Rashid Karami and the ministers, to discuss the situation arising from the Israeli withdrawal from the south and the resumption of the military discussions in Al-Naqurah tomorrow.

Following the session Prime Minister Karami said that the regime is ready to fill every vacuum which might occur as a result of the Israeli withdrawals, and to make all arrangements necessary to prevent the occurrence of anything that might disturb security in these areas.

Prime Minister Karami further denounced tonight's explosion in Sidon which injured Mustafa Sa'd, his wife and son, and some citizens.

Here is a recording of the statement which the prime minister made after the conclusion of the Cabinet's special session:

[Begin recording] [Karami] The Cabinet held a special session tonight to discuss and analyze the situation in light of Israel's preparations for a first stage withdrawal, particularly from Sidon and its surroundings, as well as the prevailing atmosphere of concern because of what is being reiterated about attempts to sow sedition and create disturbances during these withdrawals. I have previously said that the enemy will try to create such disturbances to confuse the authorities in Lebanon and induce the citizens to think in a way harmonious with Israel's plan which aims, perhaps, at justifying its occupation or at convincing public opinion abroad that the security situation was stable because of Israel's presence — the hateful occupation. Therefore the Cabinet's discussion focused on the adoption of all the measures and arrangements necessary for the Army to move and fill every gap which will be caused as a result of these withdrawals. The discussion also focused on making all the arrangements necessary to prevent the occurrence of any incident that might disturb the security in these areas.

We are confident of the citizens awareness and their sense of national responsibility during this historic stage, because all of us are seeking and preparing to ensure that this withdrawal will be effected unconditionally and without impediments as soon as possible. All of us will undoubtedly appreciate the sacrifices of the national resistance which is carrying out its duties in defense of the country's sovereignty and the dignity of its soil and people. These sacrifices behoove all to rise to the level of these sacrifices and to be vigilant and united to work for the consolidation of security and an end to all attempts aimed at creating conflicts among the citizens, communities, and areas.

We are continuously holding discussions to continue implementation of the coastal plan up to the Al-Awwali. The security subcommittee held a meeting today and adopted positive and effective decisions to prepare the atmosphere for the Army to reach the borders of the south and to enter the area when orders are issued to it. This is in addition to the Army present in the

south. All this gives rise for hope that everything is ready for implementation.

While the Cabinet was meeting today, we heard the news of the painful incident that inflicted some wounds on Mustafa Ma'ruf Sa'd. We hope his wounds are not serious. He was taken to the hospital. This is a sample of what we have been expecting and fearing.

But, as I have said, we are fully confident that Israel's agents will not escape from the hands of the people or from their surveillance. By their solidarity, the people will close all the paths that Israel is trying to pursue to disrupt the process of its withdrawal and to justify its occupation.

[Unidentified reporter] Mr Prime Minister, have you supplied the Lebanese delegation to the Al-Naqurah talks with instructions?

[Karami] Discussions were held on this subject, and instructions have been given to the Lebanese delegation.

[Reporter] What is the Lebanese position [words indistinct]?

[Karami] The position depends on the timetable Israel will submit to the delegation for its withdrawals. The Lebanese delegation will adopt a position that will lead to the coordination of the withdrawals and the required arrangements in accordance with what the Israeli plan looks like. [end recording]

Cabinet Briefed on Withdrawal

NC212131 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 2015 GMT 21 Jan 85

[Text] The Cabinet was informed today that Israel has withdrawn from Sharhabil and Tallat Mar Ilyas, and has loaded armored vehicles on trucks at noon today. This means that it can withdraw within hours. Israel also placed an electric wire around Abu al-Aswad.

The Cabinet also received a report about the presence in 'Ayn al-Hulwah of about 200 armed Palestinians who cooperate with Israel.

French Chief of Staff Arrives in Beirut

NC181153 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1045 GMT 18 Jan 85

[Text] French Chief of Staff General Jeannou Lacaze arrived in Beirut at noon today. In a short while he is scheduled to inspect the French observers positions on the mountain.

Lacaze has visited the Security Arrangements Committee headquarters with Colonel Susini, chief of the French observers in Lebanon. He was received by the committee members who later held a meeting to discuss the obstacles impeding the removal of the barricades in some areas on the combat lines and in the center of Beirut.

Karami, Lacaze on Observers

NC181730 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1515 GMT 18 Jan 85

[Passages within quotation marks recorded]

[Text] President Amin al-Jumayyil met with Jeannou Lacaze, French chief of staff, this afternoon. They reviewed, in the presence of Prime Minister Karami and French Ambassador Fernand Wibaux, the role of the French forces in the south, and the duties of the French observers in light of the attacks to which they are being subjected.

This meeting was followed by another meeting between President al-Jumayyil and Prime Minister Karami. After the meeting Karami said: "We received the French chief of staff, who arrived on a mission from France to study the situation, particularly concerning the French observers and the French forces participating in UNIFIL, and the measures that can be taken to guarantee their safety, especially since they are carrying out a task that serves the country's security and implements the citizens' desire for stability and salvation. We thanked the French state for its efforts and for its help, which we appreciate in view of the relations between our countries — relations which have been purified with the blood that is being unjustifiably shed. On this basis, we underlined to the French side the extent of our interest in, and appreciation for, these efforts and the support they are giving to Lebanon."

Regarding the extent of the French response for increasing its participation in UNIFIL, the prime minister said: "The French stand is extremely responsive to every request that Lebanon makes. We sent a letter a few days ago in which we asked that the number of observers be increased so they could be used in the coastal plan. The response was positive in this respect. Thus, we repeat our gratitude to France."

Speaking about the security situation Prime Minister Rashid Karami said: "The security arrangements and decisions made by the Cabinet aim at stopping the criminal eruptions in the security situation from which we cannot absolve Israel. This is because this wave, accompanied by the current developments in the sphere of the withdrawals, clearly points out the one who will benefit from concentration on disruptions in the security situation, in West Beirut in particular. Today the infection spread to Al-Hazimiyah, B'abda, and to some of the areas of East Beirut. This proves that everyone is targeted in this criminal plan. Thus, we are in a race with the sides planning to create confusion and fear among the citizens to turn them away from concentrating on matters pertaining to the Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon, and to direct their attention on the occasional dollar hikes and on the eruptions targeted at defenseless and innocent people. We stress our steadfastness and resolve to achieve an Israeli withdrawal as soon as possible, without any restrictions or conditions. We will concentrate on implementing the measures that we have adopted and which we consider the only solution. I urge all citizens to cooperate and inform us about anything they sense, or any information they have, because we are passing through a difficult and historic phase. I emphasize that our most important triumph will be to liberate our country."

Upon emerging from B'abda Palace, French Army Chief of Staff General Jeannou Lacaze said: This is not the first time I have met with the president. Whenever we faced difficulties in the past, the Lebanese and French views were identical, especially regarding the task of the French observers in Lebanon and the problems they face, including those that have occurred over the past few days.

General Jeannou added: We discussed with the president the role of the French observers — the role which France will never relinquish, contrary to what has been published in some foreign newspapers. During this visit, we tried to discuss with the president the way to ensure the security and safety of these observers.

General Jeannou Lacaze then met in Al-Yarzi with Army Commander General Michel 'Awn. Earlier, General Lacaze met with the members of the Quadripartite Security Committee in the presence of the chief French observer.

Lacaze on Troops' Presence

LD181952 Paris Domestic Service in French 1800 GMT 18 Jan 85

[Text] The French Armed Forces chief-of-staff, Jeannou Lacaze, is in Beirut, Lebanon. He is there to meet with the French observers — the White Helmets — three of whom have died since the beginning of the year. He is also going to look at the problem of the Blue Helmets, as it is not out of the question for France to send more soldiers to Lebanon under the aegis of the United Nations. General Lacaze talked to our permanent special correspondent in Beirut, Alain Menargues.

[Begin recording] [Lacaze] I have come to examine — with, on the one hand, the government, and the Lebanese factions on the other, all of whom are requesting that the observers remain — the conditions in which security could be better ensured.

[Menargues] At [words indistinct], where you are going tomorrow, General, are you planning the possible increase of the French UNIFIL contingent?

[Lacaze] Up until now nothing of this kind has officially been requested. But, of course, if for example there was an Israeli withdrawal and a redeployment of UNIFIL, and reinforcements were asked of France, it is not out of the question that there would be a favorable reply. [end recording]

The Lebanese prime minister, Rashid Karami, has asked France to further reinforce its observer contingent. The extra French White Helmets should take part in the plan to bring peace to the coastal road south of Beirut.

Subcommittee on Coast, Al-Kharrub Meets

NC211315 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1230 GMT 21 Jan 85

[Text] The Security Arrangements Committee held a meeting at the Race Course building at 1300 today. All its members attended. The committee will follow up the progress made in the removal of barricades and emplacements set up by the Phalangist forces on the combat lines in Beirut.

Following a meeting of the Coast and Iqlim al-Kharrub Subcommittee, a committee source said that those present approved the following arrangements:

1. Withdrawal of alien gunmen;
2. Withdrawal of heavy weapons;
3. Opening of all the roads and removal of all earth barriers and mines;
4. Removal of gunmen; and
5. Institution of Army patrols.

Delegation Meets Arab League Secretary General

NC181250 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 18 Jan 85

[Text] Arab League Secretary General Chedli Klibi met with a Lebanese delegation led by Michel Iddih last night. Iddih said afterward that the talks dealt with means of coordinating efforts with the Arab League to conduct an international campaign to explain the Middle East situation. He said that this will be done by inviting political and parliamentary leaders from the big powers to visit Lebanon, to discover firsthand the Israeli enemy's lies and allegations, and to acquaint themselves with the heroic actions carried out by the Lebanese National Resistance Front.

Iddih also noted that his delegation will call for an emergency session of the Arab Information Ministers Council, to organize a comprehensive and intensive campaign against the Zionist enemy.

Committee Returns From Tunisia

NC191637 Beirut Domestic Service in English 1510 GMT 19 Jan 85

[Text] Members of the Factfinding and Information Committee for the Liberation of the South, West Al-Biqa', and Rashayya returned to Beirut last night following their visit to the secretary general of the Arab League in Tunisia. Members of the committee met in Tunisia with the secretary general of the Arab League, Chedli Klibi, and discussed with him, during the 2-hour meeting, the conditions prevailing in the south, west Al-Biqa', and Rashayya.

The head of the committee, former Minister Michel Iddih, presented the Israeli [word indistinct] scheme to be executed by Israel shortly after its withdrawal from the south. Members of the committee also briefed Mr Klibi on the uprising of the national resistance in the south.

On his part, the secretary general of the Arab League presented his information on moves launched in the Arab and European capitals concerning the Israeli occupation of Lebanon.

Official Proposes Complaint to Security Council

NC191445 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1400 GMT 19 Jan 85

[Text] Munir Abu Fadil, deputy speaker of the Chamber of Deputies, has requested that a complaint be submitted to the UN Security Council about statements made by Israeli officials calling for dividing the Lebanese people, fanning sectarianism, and sowing the spirit of class distinctions [tabaqiyah], especially since these officials are now waging a war of nerves against us by telling us that massacres and a sectarian war will take place in the south.

Abu Fadil has proposed the following:

1. That a complaint be submitted to the Security Council in this respect, because a psychological attack is much more dangerous than a military attack;

2. That committees be formed in the south and in all of Lebanon, to confront the challenge and honor the souls of the martyrs who irrigated the soil of the south with their blood to safeguard Lebanon.

It is required that television seminars, lectures, and sermons in churches, mosques, and other places of worship be held. As far as we are concerned, this is the hour of truth, the hour of knowing ourselves, and the hour of awarding the heroes of national resistance.

Bomb Explodes Under Parliament Secretary's Car

NC192143 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 2115 GMT 19 Jan 85

[Text] At approximately 2230 today, an explosive device exploded under the car of Ihsan Abu Khalil, secretary general of the Chamber of Deputies. The car, a Mitsubishi with registration plates 435566, was parked in front of his house on Tadrus Street in Corniche al-Mazra'ah [in West Beirut]. Only material damage was caused to nearby cars and window panes of buildings.

Ba'th Congress Resumes Meetings 19 January

JN191142 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1115 GMT 19 Jan 85

[Text] Damascus — The Eighth Regional Congress of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party resumed at 1000 today. The congress continued to discuss organizational structure and its development and recommendations related to organization of party and popular organizations.

Ends Organizational Report

JN191842 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1815 GMT 19 Jan 85

[Text] Damascus — The Eighth Regional Congress of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party resumed work at 1800 today. The Congress has ended discussion of the organizational report and its recommendations. The Congress has adopted a number of recommendations and decisions that will develop the party's organizational structure and strengthen its leading role in society and the state.

Congress Concluded; Members Elected

JN210558 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0315 GMT 21 Jan 85

[Text] The Eighth Regional Congress of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party concluded its work last night after hearing an important directive speech by Comrade Hafiz al-Asad, secretary general of the party.

The congress elected the following comrades for the Ba'th Party's Central Committee: Hafiz al-Asad, 'Abdallah al-Ahmar, Zuhayr Mashariqah, 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, Rif'at al-Asad, Mahmud al-Zu'bi, 'Abd al-Ra'uf al-Kasm, Mustafa Talas, Ahmad Dhiyab, Nasir al-Din Nasir, 'Izz al-Din Nasir, Tawfiq Salihah, Ilyas al-Lati, Sa'id Hammadi, Sulayman Qaddah, Walid Hamdun, Wahib Tannus, 'Abd al-Qadir Qaddurah, Hikmat al-Shihabi, 'Ala' al-Din 'Abidin, Ahmad Qabalan, Sami al-Salih, Tawfiq Hassun, Sharif Hudaythi, 'Abd al-Razzaq Ayyub, Ahmad al-As'ad, 'Abd al-Karim Bilal, Ghazi al-Khadra, Hamdu Hajju, Rashid Ikhtirini, Ibrahim Hunaydi, 'Abd al-Razzaq 'Awwad, Ibrahim Muhammad, Kamal Sharaf, Muhammad Ghabbash, Mahmud Qaddur, Muhammad Najib al-Sayyid Ahmad, Mahmud Nuri Jillu, Hassan al-Saqqa, Muhammad Salman, Antoine Filu, Nadim 'Akkash, Muhammad Mawalidi, 'Aziz Saqr, Muhammad Harbah, 'Ali Zayyud, Khalid Salamah, Zaki Hakim, Muhammad Zaydan, Nazih Duwaydiri, 'Ali Sultan, Walid 'Uthman, Ghassan Rajab, Wa'il Isma'il, Mahmud Hadid, Yusuf al-Ahmad, Mustafa al-'Ayid, Zahid Istanbuli, Safi Abu Dan, Riyad Haj Khalil, 'Ali Nassar, Amin Abu al-Shamat, Muhammad 'Ali Khalaf, Fayiz al-Nasir, Faruq al-Shar', Yasin Rajjuh, Husni Harb, Ra'if al-Mur'i, Ahmad Dirgham, Muhammad 'Ali Hashim, Husayn Abu Hamid, Tawfiq Ibrahim, Kawthar al-Nahhas, Hiyam Buwayhi, Muna 'Awad, Najm al-Shaysh Musa, Ibrahim Safi, Shafiq Fayyad, Subhi Haddad, 'Adnan Sulayman Hasan, 'Ali Asalan, 'Ali al-Salih, 'Ali Duba, 'Ali Haydar, Fu'ad 'Absi, Mustafa Tayyarah, Hasan Turkumani, 'Ali Malahifji, Muhammad al-Khuli, and Muhammad Ibrahim al-'Ali.

The following comrades were elected as members of the Ba'th Party Control and Inspection Committee: Ghassan Abu Tawq, Mary Haddad, 'Aziz Sulayman, 'Abdallah Abu Al-Rish, and 'Abd al-Karim Abu Fakhr.

The party's Central Committee then met and elected the following comrades for the Regional Command: Hafiz al-Asad, 'Abdallah al-Ahmar, Zuhayr Mashariqah, 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, Rif'at al-Asad, Mahmud al-Zu'bi, 'Abd al-Ra'uf al-Kasm, Mustafa Talas, 'Izz al-Din Nasir, Tawfiq Salihah, Sa'id Hammadi, Sulayman Qaddah, Walid Hamdun, Wahib Tannus, 'Abd al-Qadir Qaddurah, Hikmat al-Shihabi, Ahmad Qabalan,, 'Abd al-Razzaq Ayyub, Ahmad Dirgham, Fayiz al-Nasir, and Rashid Ikhtirini.

Soviet Delegation Arrives Damascus 21 Jan

JN211331 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1115 GMT 21 Jan 85

[Text] A USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium delegation headed by Akil Salimov, deputy chairman of the Presidium and chairman of Uzbek SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, arrived in Damascus this afternoon on an 8-day visit to Syria at the invitation of People's Assembly Speaker Mahmud al-Zu'bi.

Salimov and his accompanying delegation were received at Damascus International Airport by People's Assembly Speaker Mahmud al-Zu'bi; a number of Assembly Bureau members, committee chairmen, members, and the secretary general; the USSR ambassador and embassy staff; and members of the Soviet community in Damascus.

After welcoming Salimov and his accompanying delegation, Al-Zu'bi expressed the hope that this visit will bolster the friendship and cooperation relations between Syria and the USSR, particularly on the parliamentary level.

In a statement to a SANA correspondent, Akil Salimov, deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium and chairman of Uzbek SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, expressed his and his delegation's pleasure at visiting struggler Syria which stands on the front line of confrontation against imperialism and Zionism in the Middle East. He said that the CPSU, the Soviet Government, and the Soviet peoples highly appreciate the firm struggle that the Syrian Arab people are waging under the leadership of comrade struggler Hafiz al-Asad, and that they fully realize that Syria is the one that raises the banner of struggle in defense of the entire Arab nation's interests. This struggle has been crowned recently by the victory in Lebanon which led to the defeat of the imperialist Americans and their agents.

Salimov asserted that the USSR is determined to continue its support for the struggle of the Syrian Arab peoople because it is a just struggle and because the USSR is confident that these people will achieve victory since they are fighting for a just cause. He expressed hope that the visit by the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium will bolster and deepen the friendship relations between the two countries which are based on the principles of the cooperation treaty between them.

Talks Begin

JN211823 Damascus Television Service in Arabic 1730 GMT 21 Jan 85

[Text] A round of talks was held this evening between the People's Assembly delegation under speaker Mahmud al-Zu'bi and the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium delegation under Akil Salimov, deputy chairman of the Presidium and chairman of Uzbek SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium. Felix Fedotov, USSR ambassador in Damascus, attended the meeting.

The People's Assembly speaker explained during the meeting the tasks of the People's Assembly and its role both in the fields of legislation and popular supervision. He also explained to the guest delegation the construction, economic, and educational achievements in the country, particularly following the Corrective Movement which was led by militant President Hafiz al-Asad.

Salimov reaffirmed the USSR's support and backing for Syria's struggle under President Hafiz al-Asad against the Zionist-imperialist onslaught. The two sides had identical views on all the topics that were discussed.

Further on Talks

JN212105 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1815 GMT 21 Jan 85

[Text] People's Assembly Speaker Mahmud al-Zu'bi has praised the USSR's stands in support of the just Arab struggle and the world liberation movements. He added that the Syrian people, under President Hafiz al-Asad highly appreciate these stands.

This came during a session of talks held today between the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium delegation and a delegation from the Syrian People's Assembly. The USSR delegation was led by Akil Salimov, deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium and chairman of the Uzbek SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium. USSR Ambassador in Damascus Felix Fedotov attended the meeting.

Al-Zu'bi pointed out that despite Syria's pan-Arab tasks of confronting plots of domination, expansion, and aggression by imperialism and Zionism, and the great responsibilities and sacrifices these tasks require on various levels, development and construction projects are proceeding at a quick pace.

On his part, Salimov asserted that the USSR harbors sincere love and sympathy for the Arab peoples. It highly appreciates Syria's prominent role in the region under the leadership of President Hafiz al-Asad. The USSR considers Syria to be a pioneering factor in confronting U.S. imperialism and the Zionist aggression in the Middle East. It carries its responsibilites in this field with complete devotion, sincerity, and sacrifice.

Salimov expressed the USSR's support for Syria's brave policy under President Hafiz al-Asad, pointing out that the USSR-Syrian friendship is firmly based on the strong platform of hostility to imperialism and of identity of views on the current world problems. He said that these relations are developing, expanding, and are being entrenched year after year. Salimov also said that President Hafiz al-Asad's recent visit to the USSR actively contributed toward entrenching and developing these relations.

The two sides' views on all issues discussed were identical.

Al-Zu'bi Hosts Banquet

JN212115 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 2015 GMT 21 Jan 85

[Text] People's Assembly Speaker Mahmud al-Zu'bi held a banquet this evening in honor of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium delegation led by Akil Salimov, deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium and chairman of the Uzbek SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium. The banquet was attended by some memebrs of the People's Assembly Bureau, chairman of its committees, its secretary general, and PNC Speaker Khalid al-Fahum.

Al-Zu'bi and Salimov exchnged cordial speeches that expressed the profound friendship between Syria and the USSR. Al-Zu'bi said in his speech that Syria, which is connected with the USSR in a treaty of friendship and cooperation, will continue the struggle under the leadership of President Hafiz al-Asad against the U.S. domination plans and the Israeli aggression until the occupied Arab territories are liberated and the Palestinian people's legitimate rights are restored.

USSR-Syria Constructing Airport Near Turkey

NC220803 Istanbul GUNAYDIN in Turkish 17 Jan 85 p 9

[Text] It has been learned that Syria and the Soviet Union are jointly constructing a strategic airport 40 kilometers off Turkish borders.

It is reported that the construction of this airport, which is very close to the Kamisli District of Mardin, began 1 and 1/2 years ago. It is also reported that the airport, which is meant to be a military base, is camouflaged.

This airport, which has been spotted in pictures taken by U.S. spy satellites, is large enough to accomodate Soviet transport planes and the most modern bombers can land and take off. Stringent security measures are in effect around this airport, some parts of which have been built into the sides of mountains.

Iran's Sheykh ol-Eslam Arrives in Damascus

JN201825 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1800 GMT 20 Jan 85

[Text] Damascus, 20 Jan (SANA) — Iranian Deputy Foreign Minister Hoseyn Sheykh ol-Eslam arrived in Damascus this evening on a visit to Syria. The visit is within the framework of his current tour that includes Libya and Algeria.

In a statement upon arrival, Sheykh ol-Eslam said that his visit is within the framework of coordination and consultation between Syrian and Iranian officials in order to promote cooper-

ation between the two countries and on ways to confront the imperialist and Zionist schemes in the region. He described his talks in Libya and Algeria as successful and fruitful.

IRNA: Announces Meeting

LD201950 Tehran IRNA in English 1935 GMT 20 Jan 85

[Text] Damascus, Jan. 20, IRNA — The foreign ministers of Iran, Algeria, Syria, Libya and the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen will hold a joint meeting in the near future, Iranian Deputy Foreign Minister Hoseyn Sheykh ol-Eslam said upon his arrival here Sunday evening.

Sheykh ol-Eslam said the meeting would take place "within the next two or three weeks", to discuss the latest developments in the region.

The Iranian official said he would convey to Syrian leaders, the outcome of his talks in Libya and Algeria during the past week, which he described as positive.

Sheykh ol-Eslam's visit to Damascus is the second in eight days. His current visit is expected to be a short one.

Received by Al-Shar'

JN211259 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1115 GMT 21 Jan 85

[Text] Damascus —Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' this morning received Iranian Deputy Foreign Minister Hoseyn Sheykh ol-Eslam and his accompanying delegation.

The meeting was attended by Assistant Foreign Minister 'Isam al-Na'ib and the Iranian ambassador in Damascus.

Talks dealt with the current political situation in the region and relations between the two friendly countries.

Asssistant Foreign Minister 'Isam al-Na'ib received Sheykh ol-Eslam this morning and discussed with him bilateral relations.

Confers With Khaddam

JN211423 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1355 GMT 21 Jan 85

[Text] Damascus, 21 Jan (SANA) -- Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam today received Iranian Assistant Foreign Miniuter Hoseyn Sheykh ol-Eslam and his accompanying delegation. The talks dealt with the current situation in the region.

Leaves Damascus 21 Jan

JN211425 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1315 GMT 21 Jan 85

[Text] Damascus — Iranian Deputy Foreign Minister Hoseyn Sheykh ol-Eslam left Damascus this afternoon after a short visit during which he met with a number of officials and discussed the latest developments in the region and bilateral relations.

Lebanese Forces Denounce 'Arafat's UN Appeal

JN181758 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1515 GMT 18 Jan 85

[Text] Beirut — The nationalist Lebanese Forces have strongly denounced Yasir 'Arafat's appeal to the United Nations to protect Palestinian refugee camps in southern Lebanon in case the Zionist invasion forces withdraw from there. The nationalist forces said that 'Arafat's appeal implies his dangerous involvement in plotting against the Lebanese cause and the major cause — the Palestine question.

Today's edition of the Lebanese paper *AL-SHA'B* quotes these nationalist Lebanese circles as saying that 'Arafat wants to grant the occupation forces a good conduct certificate. The paper wonders: If 'Arafat fears the withdrawal, then all he has to do is go to the West Bank and assume his authority under the patronage of the occupation forces. The paper adds that 'Arafat wants to give the impression that the Zionist occupation of southern Lebanon is humanitarian and to advocate Israel's lies about the Lebanese Army's inability to maintain security in the areas where it is present or to carry out the missions entrusted to it in all Lebanese lands.

The nationalist circles wondered who 'Arafat is afraid of and ruled out the possibility that Lahd's forces or Israel's agents are the source of 'Arafat's fears. This is because Israel's agents are able to carry out the massacre with the occupation forces' encouragement. They harbor no ill will toward 'Arafat's followers, especially since some of them cooperate with the occupation forces. The circles wondered about the extent of 'Arafat's care for his men and followers, and the fact that he pays no attention to the fate of thousands of Palestinians who do not follow him.

TISHRIN Says 'Arafat Remarks Serve Israeli Aims

JN181839 Damascus SANA in Arabic 0735 GMT 18 Jan 85

[Text] Damascus, 18 Jan (SANA) — *TISHRIN* says in a commentary today that statements by Yasir 'Arafat and Israeli war minister Yitzhaq Rabin on Israel's withdrawal from southern Lebanon have the same aims. By warning of massacres after Israel's withdrawal, Rabin was trying to blackmail the Lebanese Government in order to soften its position and create fear among the various Lebanese communities in the south in the hope that some of them will demand a halt to Israel's withdrawal. 'Arafat, who declared that he has decided to escalate fedayeen operations in southern Lebanon, is seeking the same Israeli aim. He does not want the invaders to withdraw, because their withdrawal is a victory for the path of armed struggle, which 'Arafat has abandoned.

The paper asks: Why is 'Arafat declaring that he will escalate operations in southern Lebanon rather than in the occupied West Bank, especially since coordination is rife between him and King Husayn? How can 'Arafat activate the resistance in southern Lebanon and fail to do so in the West Bank? How can 'Arafat escalate his operations after he has scattered the Palestinian fighters far from the confrontation lines, enlisted in the ranks of the settlement process, created a serious split in the PLO ranks, and placed himself in the same trench with Syria's enemies?

The paper made it clear that 'Arafat's statements have no aim except to urge Rabin not to withdraw from Lebanon. This is because Israel's withdrawal will be a great victory for Lebanon and Syria and for all the Palestinian fighters who adhered to the rifle and armed struggle and refused to compromise or attend the liquidationist Amman PNC session.

In conclusion, the paper says that the Lebanese victories were the result of Syria's support and sacrifices and that the Lebanese experience is a lesson for all the Palestinians whom 'Arafat has misled and whom he is driving toward Camp David.

Papers Discuss Israel Withdrawal Decision

JN200927 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0345 GMT 20 Jan 85

[Press review]

[Excerpt] Under the headline "Israel Is Preparing To Back the Reactionary Axis Moves," *AL-BA'TH* says: Recent events have proved that Israel's decision to withdraw from the Lebanese areas it occupies was only an attempt to reshuffle cards in the Lebanese arena. Beirut reports say that Israel was directly behind the explosions in Beirut, in the mountain, and various other areas. An Israeli tank was seen stationed near the old 'Alman bridge in the Al-Kharrub region and directing its fire there [as heard] in order to start the trouble that Israel's agents began in Lebanon. Attempts at rekindling the trouble began by exploding boobytrapped cars in various Lebanese areas, particularly in west Beirut.

AL-BA'TH adds: Israel, which reaped nothing from its invasion except human and material losses, cannot be convincing if it says that it will leave the Lebanese areas without creating big troubles for the Lebanese Government, which tries to spread its legitimate authority over the entire country. While announcing its intention to withdraw in stages, Israel claimed that its withdrawal might lead to internal strife, thus giving the world public opinion reason to believe that new massacres, such as the ones Israel implemented in Sabra and Shatilla, would ensue after the withdrawal.

The paper noted that Israel's decision to withdraw from Lebanon is alien to the expansionist, aggressive Zionist mentality that governs the Zionist entity. Therefore, the withdrawal decision, which came following the Lebanese resistance's painful blows to the occupation forces, may be a new ploy within the intensive conspiratorial moves in our region, which have been going on for months and which will climax next month when leaders of some Arab regimes arrive in Washington.

AL-BA'TH says in conclusion: We in Syria, while offering all required support for liberating the Lebanese areas from the Israeli invaders and entrenching the unity of the Lebanese people and territory, hope that all the Lebanese people without exception will shoulder their historic responsibilities in the current circumstances in order to face the new Zionist threat. We are certain that the Lebanese masses, who have foiled all attempts at plotting and aggression in the past, will be ever more cohesive in order to foil all the plots that the United States and the Arab reactionary axis are hatching.

Under the headline "Syria Will Remain Lebanon's Backer and the Guarantor of Its Deliverance," *AL-THAWRAH* says: The Lebanese Government's agreement to resume the Al-Naqurah military talks in no way indicates any change in the Lebanese stand, because when Lebanon participated in these talks it considered them a reasonable means of liberating its territory from the Israeli occupation without allowing its national sovereignty to be affected by any secondary factors. This fact continues to be the slogan of the declared Lebanese position.

Hence, Israel will find itself compelled to submit to the realities and withdraw its forces from all the Lebanese areas. After having exercised all means of pressure on Lebanon, Israel has discovered that its only choice to extricate itself from the Lebanese quagmire is complete withdrawal. Its recent decision is within this framework. Under the bludgeoning of the Lebanese resistance, following the Lebanese Government's rejection of all attempts and pressures, and after the Zionist maneuvers and blackmail campaigns have failed, Israel was forced to make such a decision. By agreeing to resume the Al-Naqurah military talks, Lebanon has placed before Israel very limited choices. Israel's decision will not be of any use if it does not lead to a total Israeli withdrawal from the Lebanese territory.

Israel will not be able to escape this reality because the march of security, reconciliation, and liberation in Lebanon will never be reversed. This was expressed by Lebanese Prime Minister Rashid Karami when he announced yesterday that Lebanon will not offer any concessions to Israel and that it insists on dictating its own terms of rejecting anything short of comprehensive Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon.

UN's Brian Urquhart on Withdrawal, Al-Naqurah Talks

Talks Serve as Monitor

TA180910 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 18 Jan 85 p 1

[Report by diplomatic correspondent Asher Wallfish]

[Excerpt] UN Undersecretary General Brian Urquhart said yesterday that the Al-Naqurah talks, which are expected to resume on Monday, should "serve as an instrument for monitoring the first phase of Israel's pullback in South Lebanon."

The withdrawal is due to take place February 18, and includes the port town of Sidon.

Urquhart met Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir at his office in Jerusalem and told him that the Lebanese Government ought to assume the responsibility, and enforce its sovereignty in the area being evacuated.

He said the Lebanese Government expects to get the blueprints of the Israel Defence Forces withdrawal on Monday at the Al-Naqurah meeting. "The decision of the Israeli Cabinet is a big opportunity for Lebanon," he said.

Meets With Rabin

TA201227 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1217 GMT 20 Jan 85

['Oz Frankel report] [Text] UN Under Secretary General Brian Urquhart says there is a real chance that the Lebanese will ask UNIFIL to occupy the area that the IDF will evacuate north of the Al-Litani River. At the end of a meeting with Defense Minister Rabin, Urquhart said there are positive elements in the continued contacts between Israel and Lebanon. He expressed the hope that practical progress will be made in the Al-Naqurah talks on Tuesday on the arrangements in southern Lebanon and UNIFIL's deployment there.

The UN under secretary general will leave Jerusalem for London to brief the UN secretary general about his talks in the region.

Al-Naquarah Talks With Lebanon Resume 22 January

Rabin Interviewed on Talks

TA211604 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1505 GMT 21 Jan 85

[Interview with Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin by military correspondent Gay Zohar on 21 January; place not given — recorded]

[Text] [Zohar] Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin, the Al-Naqurah talks are scheduled to resume tomorrow. Do we expect any improvement in the Lebanese position?

[Rabin] We definitely expect and hope. However, we will have to wait until tomorrow to see what happens. We expect the Lebanese to have finally accepted the fact that the IDF definitely intends to carry out the government's decision — to effect a three-phased redeployment to defend the northern border from Israeli territory, of course, with a security strip near the Lebanese-Israeli border. We really hope that they have at long last understood that on 18 February the IDF will begin effecting the first phase, whether they cooperate with us or not. Therefore, we hope they are also interested in having the area transferred to their control — even if only formally — in an orderly fashion so as to prevent chaos and all sorts of occurrences which take place in Lebanon in the absence of a body capable of enforcing even a limited measure of government authority. Hence, if the Lebanese tomorrow propose an orderly transfer — and an orderly transfer would be difficult without the United Nations by means of UNIFIL — I would be satisfied.

[Zohar] Would you be surprised?

[Rabin] I would be satisfied.

[Zohar] Will we also present a timetable regarding the second and third phases of the withdrawal?

[Rabin] Our delegtation will submit the government's decision. The government's decision stipulates phases, but does not stipulate definite dates, except for the first phase. Consequently, the delegation will not be able to present an exact timetable. It will present the phases and it will emphasize that a great deal will depend on what happens in the area that will be evacuated in the first stage, on whether the Lebanese Government cooperates, on whether a reasonable measure of law and order is maintained in that area, and so forth.

[Zohar] Israel obviously emphasizes the importance of having UNIFIL taking part in the arrangement following our withdrawal to prevent undesirable developments. Have we been in contact with other local elements, in addition to UNIFIL, to prevent those developments?

[Rabin] I imagine that talks are being conducted in the area we intend to evacuate in a bid to sooth tempers. However, I would not say that the key to a solution to this question lies in those contacts. Only coordination and arrangements between us and the Lebanese with the participation of UNIFIL can guarantee the maximum that may be done to prevent chaos in the area.

[Zohar] Has there also been anxiety about Shi'ite activities following in our footsteps southward?

[Rabin] There are many fears, some justified, regarding the activities of Shi'ite or other terrorists. I hope that by our declaration of intent to redeploy along the international border to defend the Galilee, the Shi'ites will also realize that the government definitely intends to evacuate the Lebanese area, thus removing the main reason which provoked the Shi'ite attacks against the IDF soldiers in Lebanon.

Gilbo'a States Government Stand

TA220814 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0800 GMT 22 Jan 85

[Text] The meeting between the Israeli and Lebanese delegations

in Al-Naqurah has begun. Brigadier General 'Amos Gilbo'a, the head of the Israeli delegation, briefed the Lebanese officers on the details of the Israeli Government's decision, and said that Israel wants to create a situation in which the Lebanese Army and UNIFIL will receive the area to be evacuated by the IDF in an orderly manner.

Our correspondent Hayim Hecht reports that the head of the Lebanese delegation demanded that it receive a detailed timetable of the IDF withdrawal all the way to the international border. According to him, this is the Lebanese condition for continuing the negotiations with the IDF.

Lebanon Views Plan Favorably

TA220954 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0950 GMT 22 Jan 85

[Text] In this morning's talks, the head of the Lebanese delegation to the Al-Naqurah talks expressed a positive attitude toward Israel's plans to withdraw from Lebanon and the aim to transfer the evacuated area to the hands of UNIFIL and the Lebanese Army. A spokesman of the Lebanese delegation noted that Lebanon also favorably views the aim to increase the strength of UNIFIL to enable it to deploy in the area to be evacuated by the IDF.

Agreement Believed Possible

TA221120 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1100 GMT 22 Jan 85

[Excerpt] UN representative Jean-Claude Aime this morning briefed the Foreign Ministry director general on his talks with the Lebanese leaders. Following this briefing, Jerusalem believes that it is possible to reach an agreement with Lebanon over the deployment of UNIFIL in the areas to be evacuated by the IDF. There was also a positive turning point in Lebanon's stand in the talks that were resumed this morning.

Al-Naqurah Talks Summarized

TA221204 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1100 GMT 22 Jan 85

[Excerpts] The talks in Al-Naqurah have been recessed for consultations in response to a request by the Lebanese delegation. This morning the Israeli delegation presented to the Lebanese the IDF's withdrawal plan, whereas the Lebanese, on their part, demanded to receive a detailed timetable for the withdrawal to the international border. Our correspondent Hayim Hecht reports from Al-Naqurah:

[Begin recording] [Hecht] The head of the Lebanese delegation, Brigadier Al-Hajj, opened with the usual repertoire of accusations against Israel saying that it is leading the entire world astray. He said Israel is leaving Sidon simply because it cannot control it. Lebanon demands that it receive a detailed timetable of the IDF withdrawal to the international border; otherwise, it will view the IDF evacuation of Lebanon as nothing but an IDF redeployment on Lebanese territory.

Brigadier General 'Amos Gilbo'a, the head of the Israeli delegation, tried to incorporate basic military logic in his response. He stated that the lines along which the IDF will be deployed following the first phase of the withdrawal, do not allow for an extended stay. Gilbo'a reiterated the government's decision, which is based upon the return of the IDF to the international border:

[Gilbo'a] We want to allow UNIFIL and the Lebanese Army to receive the evacuated area from us, and to assume responsibility for it immediately following our evacuation of the area.

[Hecht] Brig Al-Hajj stated that Israel is responsible for the explosion of the booby-trapped car in Sidon yesterday:

[Al-Hajj — in English] The incident of yesterday in Sidon was entirely on the responsibility of the Israeli Army and we hope that no further incidents will happen for the next 5 weeks.

[Hecht] The spokesman of the Israeli delegation Lieutenant Colonel Yona Gazit clarified:

[Gazit] We know why he asks this at this point. However, the question of our blame was never mentioned.

[Hecht] Outside the conference room, one of the officers of the Lebanese delegation hinted that Israel was interested in the assassination of Mustafa Sa'd. The answer he received from an Israeli observer was: Rest assured that had we wanted to kill him, we would not have wasted 100 kg of explosives for this purpose.

It is apparent that the Lebanese have finally realized that the Al-Naqurah talks are the last opportunity for them to receive the Sidon area from the IDF in an orderly manner. Lt Col Gazit:

[Gazit] They have requested to be excused for consultations so that they may return with an answer, and we are optimistic. [end recording]

Lebanon Issues Communique

TA221247 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1230 GMT 22 Jan 85

[Text] Several minutes ago, the Lebanese delegation to the Al-Naqurah talks issued a communique saying that Lebanon is willing to extend the UNIFIL mandate, but if Israel agrees, it should present a comprehensive plan with a timetable for withdrawal from southern Lebanon. The Lebanese communique adds that Israel is leading world opinion astray. Lebanon does not view Israel's act as a withdrawal, but only a redeployment. As we see it, the Lebanese are insisting on their demand to receive a timetable for a full withdrawal from southern Lebanon. The quotations from the Lebanese communique were brought by our military correspondent Gay Zohar.

Orderly Withdrawal, UNIFIL Deployment Discussed

Rabin: 18 Feb Deadline

TA202020 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 2000 GMT 20 Jan 85

[Text] Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin has said Israel will implement the first phase of the withdrawal from Lebanon by 18 February, with or without Lebanon's agreement, and if something occurs afterward in the area to be evacuated, the responsibility will fall on the Government of Lebanon and, to a certain extent, on the United Nations, too. Yitzhaq Rabin stressed that up to this moment the Lebanese continue to reject the proposal that the transfer of the area should be orderly. Because of their refusal, he said, let them not come along afterward with complaints and claims. An orderly transfer can be carried out and this would be good both for us and for them.

Spokesman on UNIFIL Deployment

TA220819 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 22 Jan 85 pp 1, 8

[Excerpt] UNIFIL spokesman Timor Goksel yesterday told *THE JERUSALEM POST* that the force "has received no information on a possible extension of its role and territory."

Goksel said that if additional tasks are officially required from UNIFIL, it would not take the force very long to redeploy. "We are established in the area, and have the logistics in place, and a peacekeeping force is not very heavy," he said, adding that the force could make no plans before the requirements were made clear.

Goksel said UNIFIL's strength is 5,900 men from 10 nations. It is more than 1,000 short of its authorized strength of 7,000, following the withdrawal of several contingents by their governments.

If UNIFIL is to be given an expanded role as a result of the Israeli withdrawal, he said, the force will not be big enough, since its strength was tailored to the needs of its present restricted territory.

Several governments that have contributed troops to UNIFIL have intimated willingness to increase the number of their troops if the UN decides to expand the force's role with the agreement of Israel and Lebanon.

Netanyahu: UNIFIL 'Symbolic' Barrior

TA201209 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1100 GMT 20 Jan 85

[Text] Israel's ambassador to the United Nations says UNIFIL could expand its role within the current mandate, to fill part of the vacuum left by the withdrawal of Israeli forces. Israel, says Binyamin Netanyahu, sees UNIFIL's role as maintaining order in south Lebanon and serving as a symbolic barrier between Israel and Syria. Speaking at a press conference in Jerusalem this morning before his return to New York, Netanyahu said Israel did not believe UNIFIL could prevent terrorism in south Lebanon. Dan Eisenberg reports:

[Begin recording] [Eisenberg] Israel, said Netanyahu, would rely on the deterrent capacity of its own Army to prevent terrorism.

[Netanyahu] We do not see UNIFIL as materially contributing to that effect, and we do not rely on UNIFIL as a principal element in that defense.

[Eisenberg] But Netanyahu added that UNIFIL did have a role to play in separating between Israeli and Syrian troops.

[Netanyahu] Placement of UNIFIL in that vacuum, particularly an expanded UNIFIL in that vacuum, creates a certain hindrance — it's not an obstacle, it will not stop the Syrians, but it's a symbolic political barrier to the advancement of Syrian forces.

[Eisenberg] The Syrians, he added, had reasons for moving to areas evacuated by the Israeli Army. Lebanon provides a broader front, and a coastal road is a shortcut to the heartland of Israel. The ambassador would not say, however, whether Israel had decreed a red line, beyond which it would oppose the movement of Syrian troops.

[Netanyahu] But I think that the Syrians are well aware that certain movements on their part would not be acceptable to us, and I would say also that even the present deployment — if they engage in overt and intensive abetment of the terrorist activity — that, too, will not be something that we will look aside from.

[Eisenberg] Syria, said Netanyahu, knows that Israel would defend its vital interests. [end recording]

IDF Begins Removing Equipment From Southern Lebanon

Withdrawal Unaffected by Talks

TA200518 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT 20 Jan 85

[Text] Security sources told our military correspondent Shmu'el Tal that the resumption of the Al-Naqurah talks will not affect the date of the withdrawal. The talks will only allow for arrangements for the deployment of the UN and Lebanese security forces in the evacuated area.

Withdrawal Movements Accelerated

TA200716 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0505 GMT 20 Jan 85

[Text] The withdrawal from Lebanon, at least in the first stage, will have an economic cost, of course. A special budget was not allocated for the IDF pullback operation, but the IDF estimates that this operation will cost several tens of millions of dollars. Despite this, the IDF will begin to remove equipment from Lebanon in the coming days. Our military correspondent Shmu'el Tal reports on this:

[Begin recording] At the end of the week, the deputy chief of staff approved the plan prepared by the defense establishment for the IDF withdrawal. The appropriate orders have been issued, and following further approvals, this plan will be brought to the

attention and approval of the defense minister. By the end of the coming week the engineering preparations in the western sector will have entered high gear and will involve the dismantling and removal of the installations to the new, interim line. The soldiers will leave during the very last days of February.

According to the plan adjusted to the new timetable set by the government, the IDF has only 5, not 6 weeks at its disposal, as initially thought, and thus the moves will be somewhat more accelerated. Throughout the operation, the forces in the area will have to settle for the few installations or facilities that are left behind; the Quartermastership Branch will leave only absolutely necessary items. In winter it is more difficult to stay in the open, and contrary to the withdrawal from Al-Shuf, which was carried out in warmer weather, it will now be necessary to leave more structures and equipment in the area.

Security sources say that the fact that Lebanon has announced its willingness to renew the Al-Naqurah talks will not affect the date of the withdrawal. The Lebanese may gain one thing — they may have a last chance to deploy Army, gendarmerie, and UNIFIL forces, in coordination with the IDF and before its withdrawal. Then perhaps, the scope of the interfactional hostilities expected to erupt there following the IDF withdrawal may be decreased to a minimum. [end recording]

Equipment Dismantled in Sidon

TA201034 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1022 GMT 20 Jan 85

[Text] Work on dismantling IDF equipment in the Sidon area began this morning, according to the plans for the withdrawal from southern Lebanon. This is reported by our correspondent Hayim Hecht. Equipment which does not affect the IDF's operational capability is being dismantled and removed first. At this stage, however, there is no plan to remove equipment affecting the soldiers' living conditions. Our correspondent reports that a number of orders regarding the removal were issued today, and it seems that the people involved in the work are eager to implement the plans.

1st Stage May End Early

TA201510 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1445 GMT 20 Jan 85

[Text] The first stage of the withdrawal from Lebanon may be completed significantly earlier than the end of the 5 weeks the government stipulated for it. This was reported by the IDF spokesman. Eyewitnesses in Sidon said that they saw 60 or 70 army vehicles today, including trucks and tanks, moving southward from the Sidon area. An Israeli military source reported that Israel offered to sell to the United Nations the equipment and installations which will remain in the areas to be evacuated. Israel, however, does not want to sell equipment to the Lebanese Army and prefers destroying the equipment UNIFIL does not buy.

Terrorist Activity Foreseen

TA191032 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0800 GMT 19 Jan 85

[Text] The commander of the Northern Command believes that after the IDF withdraws from Sidon, Palestinian terrorists will enter the town. In his opinion, the rival factions will try to get the Palestinians on their side during the struggle which will ensue once the IDF withdraws. Our correspondent Hayim Hecht reports that this was said in a talk with northern settlement leaders. Major General Or emphasized that the IDF is reserving the right to attack terrorists in all the areas it will evacuate. He believes that Shi'ite extremists will continue in their attempts to attack Israel, even after the completion of the withdrawal to the international border.

IDF Warns Sidon Leaders

TA201700 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1600 GMT 20 Jan 85

[Text] IDF liaison officers made it clear to leaders of the inhabitants in the Sidon area that Israel will not bear responsibility for what takes place there once the IDF withdraws. Moreover, the IDF reserves the right to return to the areas it evacuates and destroy terrorist groups. Our correspondent Hayim Hecht reports that the liaison officers also announced that in the coming weeks they will impose traffic limitations on southern Lebanese roads because of the need to provide security for the evacuating IDF convoys.

Rabin Explains Recommendation for Phased Withdrawal

TA211227 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1200 GMT 21 Jan 85

[Text] Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin has said that he recommended a phased withdrawal from Lebanon to the international border, after having concluded that the kind of order effected in Judaea and Samaria stood no chance of being implemented in southern Lebanon. Minister Rabin was addressing the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee. Our correspondent Hayim Zissowitz reports that Rabin emphasized that time is working against Israel in relation to ties with the Shi'ites. At the same time, he repeated that Israel will not tolerate a situation in which an organization similar to the PLO will try to reestablish itself in the area to be evacuated by the IDF. If this happens, the IDF will initiate action against it. Either way, the IDF will prevent any attempt to restore the old state of affairs in Lebanon, or return to the situation that preceded the war.

During the committee debate, Likud members maintained that the Cabinet made a rash decision affected by political considerations and pressure.

Sources Say Ansar To Remain Under IDF Control

TA202112 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 2100 GMT 20 Jan 85

[Text] Sources in the defense establishment have said that in the

first stages of the withdrawal from Lebanon, the Ansar detention camp and the people kept there will remain in the area under IDF control. They were thus reacting to the remarks made by Lebanese Prime Minister Rashid Karami who said that the Ansar detention camp would be evacuated as early as in the initial stage of the withdrawal.

IDF Suggests ASL Soldiers Leave Evacuated Areas

TA210529 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT 21 Jan 85

[Text] Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin has met with General Antoine Lahd, the commander of the army of southern Lebanon [ASL], and explained to him the meaning of the Cabinet's decision to withdraw. Our correspondent Hayim Hecht reports that the IDF has offered ASL soldiers living in the area to be evacuated to move, together with their families, to areas that will remain under IDF control.

Rabin: Budget Cuts Necessitate Orderly Withdrawal

TA201753 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 20 Jan 85

[Text] The defense minister hopes that Lebanon's stand at the Al-Naqurah meeting in 2 days will enable the IDF withdrawal to be carried out in a coordinated and orderly fashion. Minister Rabin says the defense establishment will suffer more than any other sector from the cuts in the state budget. According to him, the cut in the defense budget is unprecedented, and he would feel more at ease if similar cuts were made in the social spheres. Our correspondent Eli'ezer Pney-Gil says this was said in a conference of volunteers for the Soldiers' Welfare Association. Minister Rabin said the cuts will force changes in conceptions and norms, both in subjects concerning the welfare of soldiers and in the level of security provided to the country.

Economic Relations With Lebanese To Continue

TA191117 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0805 GMT 19 Jan 85

[Excerpts] Trade between Israel and Lebanon since the beginning of the Peace for Galilee war has amounted to about $150 million. The Industry and Trade Ministry is also preparing to continue trade relations with the Lebanese merchants after the IDF withdraws to the international border. The ministry and the IDF constantly talk of continued economic relations with the southern Lebanese residents. The withdrawal will also reduce the smuggling of drugs from Lebanon and will hurt the drug dealing which amounts to hundreds of tons per year. Our correspondent Gabi Zohar reviews the economic relations between Israel and Lebanon to date, as well as developments expected in the wake of th IDF withdrawal.

[Begin recording] [Zohar] A few months ago, a number of Lebanese merchants who live in villages in the Al-Zahrani region began to build warehouses in villages and towns adjacent to the Israeli border. With prophetic vision, or as a result of typical Lebanese realism [last word in English] they decided to build warehouses to store goods in the strip formerly known the Haddadland, which, in their assessment, will largely remain under Israel's influence. The calculations of the Lebanese merchants were simple — when the IDF returns to the international border, the merchants will no longer be able to transfer merchandise as easily as is done today. The Lebanese merchants will probably return to the well-known pre-Lebanese war Good Fence system.

A direct transfer of commodities and goods from Israel to the areas far from the former Haddadland will invite heavy pressures on the Lebanese merchants, even assassination attempts against those who maintain direct trade relations with Israel, as has been the case in recent months. The solution is simple — intermediaries or strawmen from the former Haddadland, who will buy the merchandise and transfer it from Israel to warehouses in southern Lebanon, will prevent the creation of a direct link between Lebanese merchants and Israel, and their innocence will be maintained. These merchants will then have another good reason to maintain the commercial ties with Israel.

None of the Lebanese Government officials or Lebanese communities' leaders guarantee the Lebanese merchants that the road to Beirut will remain open in the future. The ports in Tyre and Sidon will be subject to violent struggle, and whoever controls them will dictate the conditions of their use for the transportation of goods. The only route that will remain open for the merchants then will be by land.

Yesha'yahu Ben-Tzvi, the director of the Northern District in the Industry and Trade Ministry, who has followed Israeli-Lebanese trade relations since the Al-Litani Campaign days [1978], is convinced that these relations will continue in the future as well.

Another economic sector that will probably be hurt by the IDF withdrawal is the hard drugs dealing. Since the Israeli-Lebanese border opened, Assistant Commander Me'ir Sade, the commanding officer of the Police Galilee Subdistrict, said the operations for smuggling drugs into Israel have changed.

[Sade] The routes for drugs prior to the Peace for Galilee operation crossed Syria and Jordan, and headed southward toward Egypt, via the Sinai. With the completion of the Peace for Galilee operation, the routes changed and started crossing through the State of Israel.

[Zohar] In Sade's opinion, the IDF's return home may indicate a halt to the smuggling of drugs into Israel and a return to the pre-Lebanese war operations.

In sum, the withdrawal of the IDF from Lebanon means a considerable cooling of the commercial ties and Israel's economic aid, but definitely not a total severance of relations which have developed. It is difficult to foresee the nature of future economic relations between Israel and Lebanon. According to Yesha'yahu Ben-Tzvi, it is clear that at last the economic momentum with Lebanon will continue.

Israel To Work For Peace With Egypt

TA200637 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 20 Jan 85

[Text] Prime Minister Shim'on Peres says Israel is determined no katyusha rockets will be fired from Lebanese territory on the Galilee. Peres was speaking to an Israel Bonds dinner in Jerusalem last night. David Essing reports:

[Begin recording] [Essing] Prime Minister Peres said Israel wanted to see a free and independent Lebanon, but he also sounded this warning:

[Peres] We are determined that no katyushas will be fired from her territory to the villages of the Galilee in the northern part of Israel. [applause] We don't ask Lebanon a permission to leave, nor do we charge the Lebanese with the task to defend our villages. We shall leave on our own; we shall defend our country with our own means, with a strategy that we consider fit for the danger.

[Essing] On the upcoming negotiations with Egypt over the disputed Tabah area south of Elat, Peres says he wants two points to be made clear:

[Peres] A. Israel will work uninterruptedly to make peace between Egypt [and Israel] a real political success. We need peace, they need peace; peace is a promise for all peoples in the Middle East. [applause] We don't want the first peaceful agreement to become the last one, and we are now much interested to see that the peaceful agreement will become a new reality. Then again, and that's my second point, we believe that President Mubarak and many of his colleagues who partook in changing the Egyptian strategy toward a strategy of peace are committed to it. [end recording]

Participation in Cairo Book Fair Reported

TA220729 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0505 GMT 22 Jan 85

[Text] After 2 years of absence, Israel is again participating in the International Book Fair which opens this morning in Cairo. During the last 2 years the Egyptian authorities prevented the participation of Israel in the fair; once for political reasons — immediately following the war in Lebanon — and a second time claiming that Israel was late in submitting its request to participate in the fair. Now, following the Israeli decision on Lebanon, there are no more formal mishaps, and our Arab affairs correspondent Aharon Barne'a says that the participation — albeit modest — in today's book fair is another sign of the improvement in relations between the two countries:

[Begin recording] [Barne'a] Moshe Sason, Israel's ambassador in Cairo, will come to the huge exhibition hall on the outskirts of Cairo this morning to represent Israel at the opening of the expansive International Book Fair, which will be officially opened by Prime Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali. Following 2 years of absence, approximately 20 Israeli publishing houses will display some 600 books in a fairly modest pavilion, only 36 square meters in size. However, the Israeli flag will again be flown at Cairo's International Book Fair, next to the flags of many Arab countries. Some of them, such as Jordan, are participating in the fair for the first time, and even the PLO flag will be flown at this fair. Yitzhaq Bar-Moshe, the spokesman of the Israeli Embassy in Cairo which dealt with the Israeli participation in the fair, tells us about it in a telephone interview:

[Bar-Moshe] I think it is good that we came back; it is good that we are here. Our absence in the last 2 years was not our fault. One time they claimed that we were late in submitting our request, and a second time they did not permit our participation due to political considerations.

[Barne'a] This refers to the year following the war in Lebanon. This time, the list of the 600 books to be displayed by Israel was submitted to the management of the fair early, and none of the books have been disqualified.

They are mostly science, history, and research books, as well as dictionaries, and this time — as Bar-Moshe tells us — there are no books on politics which might disturb anyone in Cairo. To judge from past experience, there is great interest in everything exhibited by Israel at such events in Egypt. For example, in the trade fair held there last year, many thousands visited the Israeli pavilion.

The Israeli Embassy in Cairo, which usually holds a reception on the eve of such occasions, canceled the affair this year due to budget cuts — so we have been told. However, Israel is again participating in an international fair in Cairo. Perhaps this is another link in a chain which has not been severed, but has doubtlessly been somewhat weakened in the last 2 years. [end recording]

Egyptian Official Visits, Kept Away From Media

TA181118 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 18 Jan 85 p 2

[Report by Smadar Peri]

[Excerpt] "The Israeli people are overwhelmingly warm and friendly." That is the conclusion of Fatma Khayr al-Din, the representative of the Egyptian Ministry of Agriculture who is visiting Israel as the guest of the Ministries of Foreign Affairs and Agriculture.

From the beginning it was decided that the visit by the woman responsible for training women in Egypt's rural sector would be given a low profile. It seems that the way the opposition papers in Cairo treat people visiting Israel caused concern to the people in Cairo and Jerusalem organizing the visit. And indeed the Foreign Ministry in Cairo instructed the visitor to keep away from the press and the Jerusalem Foreign Ministry followed the Egyptian directive and instructed those accompanying the visitor from Cairo to try to keep her away from the media.

Thus, for the past 5 days, the journalists in Israel have been unable to cover the official visit of a fairly high-level Egyptian official who arrived in Israel after a long period during which Egyptian citizens were prevented from visiting Israel.

It has even been decided to keep journalists and cameramen away from the formal reception to be held tomorrow evening in honor of the visitor.

Foreign Ministry Denies 'Downplaying' Beersheba Talks

TA200903 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 20 Jan 85 p 2

[Report by political correspondent 'Aqiva Eldar]

[Excerpt] The Foreign Ministry yesterday denied Egypt's contention that Israel is trying to "downplay" the Beersheba talks and is trying not to turn them into a test-case for progress in bilateral relations. It has been reported that Egypt was told that if necessary, the most senior political echelon could be involved in the talks at any time just because the talks will be held in Israel.

Shamir on Husayn Choice; Free Trade Zone Accord

TA180859 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0605 GMT 18 Jan 85

[Excerpts] In preparation for the Tabah talks which will soon open between Israel and Egypt, Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir is calling on the Egyptians to prove willingness to improve relations and to return their ambassador to Israel. The foreign minister said this in an appearance in the Knesset yesterday, in a ceremonious dinner sponsored by the bonds. Our correspondent Yaqir Tzur brings some of the foreign minister's remarks.

[Begin recording] [Tzur] Although Israeli-Egyptian talks are going to begin very soon, Yitzhaq Shamir said, we are still awaiting a sign which will indicate Egypt's willingness to improve the relations, which have cooled down, and to return its ambassador to Israel. Such a move is vital if we want to maintain peace, Shamir said.

Such a move will indicate to the other Arab countries that there is no way other than peace. These remarks, Shamir said, are mainly directed at King Husayn. The increasing cooperation between Jordan and the PLO cannot, under any circumstances, promote peace, and arouses doubts regarding the moderate Jordanian declarations. The Jordanian king, Shamir said, will have to choose between the two camps.

[Shamir — in English] We cannot tolerate Jordanian attempts to profit from two contradictory worlds — to court the PLO terrorists while calling for peace and soliciting understanding and support from the free world. Husayn will have to make up his mind to which of the two camps he wants to belong.

[Tzur] Referring to economic problems, Yitzhaq Shamir listed the measures which should be adopted to resolve the economic crisis. Shamir disclosed for the first time that the Israeli Government hopes that the free trade zone agreement between Israel and the United States will take effect as early as 1 April. [end recording]

U.S. Providing Information on Contacts With USSR

TA220836 Jerusalem Government Press Office in English 21 Jan 85

[Report by Arye D. Kohen]

[Text] Answering a parliamentary query in the Knesset plenum today (Monday) regarding the recent Gromyko-Shultz talks in Geneva and the possibility of U.S.-USSR contacts regarding the Middle East, Deputy Foreign Minister Roni Milo said that the talks had produced basic agreement to conduct "consultations" concerning various regions in the world, including the Middle East. "Israel is receiving information from the U.S. on these contacts, and it will continue to receive the information if and when consultations take place on the Middle East," Milo said. He added that nothing would be done regarding U.S. contacts with the Soviets concerning the Middle East without the U.S. first consulting Israel.

Israel and the U.S. are vehemently opposed to an international conference on the Middle East, the deputy foreign minister said. Milo repeated Israel's stand that the best method for achieving progress towards Middle East peace remains direct negotiations between Israel and its neighbors, as exemplified by the Camp David accord reached between Israel and Egypt. For this reason, he said, negotiations on the Middle East between the U.S. and the Soviet Union — which would not be direct negotiations between the parties involved — "will not be effective" in advancing peace. Milo also expressed Israel's gratitude to Secretary of State Shultz for bringing up the plight of Soviet Jewry several times in the Geneva talks with Gromyko.

U.S. Economic Aid Dependent on Measures Taken

TA181940 Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew 1815 GMT 18 Jan 85

[Text] Sources in the U.S. Administration confirmed this evening that military aid to Israel will be increased by $400 million. This was reported by our U.S. correspondent Elimelekh Ram. Our correspondent adds that economic aid will not be increased until Israel takes economic measures that will satisfy the United States.

U.S. Trade Accord Approval Expected 'This Week'

TA200626 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 2145 GMT 19 Jan 85

[Excerpt] Jerusalem, 19 Jan (ITIM) — The U.S. Congress is going to give final approval to the free trade zone agreement between Israel and the United States in the middle of this coming week. This was disclosed this evening by Prime Minister Shim'on Peres in a speech before the ceremonious concluding session of the [Israeli savings] Bonds conference in the Jerusalem Hilton Hotel.

The funds raised during this bonds session from the Canadian, U.S., and Latin American bonds delegations totalled $45 million, with about $15 million given as commitment for the bonds.

The prime minister, who reviewed the history and problems of

the State of Israel noted that one of the latest achievements is the free trade zone agreement with the United States. In this respect, Israel will be the only country in the world with close commercial relations, stipulated in agreements, with both the United States and the European Economic Community. Mr Peres expressed appreciation for the United States' positive attitude toward the affairs of Israel and the Jewish people.

Opinion Polls Indicate Rise in Peres Popularity

TA191300 [Editorial Report] Tel Aviv *YEDI'OT AHARONOT* in Hebrew on 18 January on page one publishes a public opinion poll by Mina Tzemah of the Dahaf Institute conducted from 1 to 7 January, among a representative sample of 1,172 adult Jews in Israel. The poll results are accompanied by an analysis and an article by Yesha'yahu Ben-Porat on page 3 of the weekend supplement, which incorporates yet another poll conducted by the same institute on the same dates and among the same representative sample.

The poll published on page 1 indicates the public attributes good to very good marks to the performance of the following senior ministers in the national unity government: "Prime Minister Shim'on Pers — 77 percent; Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin — 79 percent; Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir — 74 percent. Even Finance Minister Yitzhaq Moda'i scored a relatively high percentage, given the fact that finance ministers are usually unpopular; 50 percent believe he is functioning well or very well, as compared to 44 percent who believe his performance is either not good or definitely not good." This poll also points out that the majority of the public prefers Peres as prime minister: He gained 38 percent compared to 16 percent for Shamir, and 12 for Navon.

In his article on page 3 of the weekend supplement, reporter Yesha'yahu Ben-Porat draws a parallel between the struggles of Shim'on Peres and French President Francois Mitterrand to reach the top government position in Israel and France respectively. Unlike Mitterrand's ever-declining popularity, however, Ben-Porat notes that, "4 months after the establishment of the Peres-led national unity government, Peres has gained the public's popularity and sympathy, as is well reflected in polls." In this context, Ben-Porat compares the above poll to a January 1984 popularity poll conducted by Mina Tzemah of the Dahaf Institute which put Yitzhaq Navon at the top of the list with 34 percent; Yitzhaq Shamir following with 18 percent; Yitzhaq Rabin with 11 percent; and Shim'on Peres at the bottom of the list with 7 percent.

In an attempt to explain the source of Peres' popularity, Ben-Porat refers to the results of the second public opinion poll which included, among other things, the following question: "Have you changed your opinion of Peres since he assumed the position of prime minister?"

Sixty-eight percent said no; 27 percent changed their opinion favorably; 3 percent changed their opinion negatively; and 2 percent did not answer. The 27 percent of the interviewees who testified to a favorable change of opinion listed Peres' positive traits in the following order: "good performance, the manifestation of traits unknown heretofore, considered opinion, responsibility and credibility, national (as opposed to partisan) perceptions, resistence to pressures, and a desire to leave Lebanon."

Ben-Porat goes on to say that Peres has worked hard for this image since "the father-of the nation syndrome" does not apply to him the way it did to David Ben-Gurion, Israel's first prime minister. Ben-Porat also says Peres is not a charismatic figure, but the achievements he scored this week — a low consumer price index and the Cabinet decision on withdrawal — have changed his image from that of the "eternal loser" to that of a competent prime minister.

Ben-Porat says that one of Peres' major weaknesses which contributes to the unfavorable change of opinion is "Peres' old-time inclination to appeal to everyone." This often motivates him to say "yes" even when he knows he should say "no." Ben-Porat contends that now, more than ever before, Peres can afford to overcome this "political Achilles' heel" and be himself, without this damaging his popularity. On the other hand, though, it is exactly his firm status which produces a negative aspect: "the disquiet and displeasure among the Likud members who are consumed with envy." The development of the national unity government increasingly emerging as the Peres government is "a development which the Likud leaders cannot ignore," and it contains the seeds of danger for the future of the national unity government.

Shamir Dismayed Over Voting in Unity Government

TA211005 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 21 Jan 85 p 1

[Report by party affairs correspondent 'Aliza Walach]

[Text] Vice Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir yesterday threatened the integrity of the national unity government if the Alignment continues to vote as a bloc.

Addressing the Herut Executive, Shamir referred to the votes cast by the Likud ministers on the decision to withdraw from Lebanon, saying that there is no symmetry between the Alignment and the Likud. The votes of the Likud ministers, he said, were based only on security considerations and therefore varied. The Alignment ministers, on the other hand, based their votes on political-partisan considerations.

The latter expressed different views during the debate, Shamir told the Herut Executive members, but this was not reflected in their voting. "This runs counter to the structure, the spirit, and the content of the national unity government, and places a burden on its existence," the vice prime minister warned. He proposed that the Likud learn a lesson from this and use this experience to determine its actions in the future.

The Herut Executive last night held a meeting on the economic issue, and in this context Shamir said that the solution of the economic problems is a key issue, which has implications for our political status. He said that voices are heard in the Arab world saying that it is possible to apply pressure to Israel, and we must therefore let our enemies know that Israel does not see itself in a

state of retreat — not from Lebanon, nor from Judaea and Samaria, nor the Gaza Strip, and not in the economic field."

Shamir told the Herut Executive members that a merger between La'am and Herut is almost final and he hopes that the matter will be concluded at the next meeting. He also said that the narrow team holding talks on a merger between Herut and the Liberals will meet this week. He will not be a member of the Herut team attending these talks, but will play an active role in them.

Shamir congratulated Sharon for his achievement in his lawsuit against *TIME*, and praised him for disproving the libel against him. He added that this achievement also means a great victory for Israel's prestige.

Espionage-Terrorist Ring Uncovered in Haifa Court
TA201146 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1100 GMT 20 Jan 85

[Text] The existence of an espionage and terrorist ring, composed of six minority group members from Galilee villages and a Lebanese resident, was disclosed today at the Haifa District Court. The squad members were detained 18 months ago, but this was only disclosed today.

Our correspondent Gershon Meller reports that according to the indictment, the network was operated by the Lebanese resident, who is a member of the Popular Front-General Command, Ahmad Jibril's organization. The members of the ring have been charged with attempting to smuggle into Israel a booby-trapped car and place it in Tel Aviv, either on Dizengoff Street or at the Shalom Towers parking lot, or in another public place in Haifa or Nahariyya.

Navy Commandeers Ship, Interrogates Crew
TA211611 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1600 GMT 21 Jan 85

[Text] The Navy commandeered a ship off the Ashdod coast carrying six people, some of them with Turkish citizenship, others with citizenship of other countries, and they are now being interrogated about their actions. Our correspondent Moshe Halevi reports that the ship was commandeered last Friday, but this has only now been released for publication. The people from the ship said they were on their way from Tripoli, Lebanon, to Limassol, Cyprus, and that the storm that raged last week swept them to Israel's shores. However, the security forces personnel are interrogating the six about whether they had a plan to carry out an attack and whether they managed to throw weapons into the water.

HADASH Members Call for Middle East Conference
TA191257 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1200 GMT 19 Jan 85

[Text] Sixty left-wing public figures — Jews, Arabs, and Druze — released a manifesto calling for the convening of an international conference, with the participation of the PLO and the Soviet Union, to settle the dispute in our region. Our correspondent Yo'el Dar reports that most of the signatories are HADASH members.

ALGERIA

SDAR President Meets With Messaadia

LD212318 Algiers Domestic Service in French 2200 GMT 21 Jan 85

[Text] At the party's headquarters, Mohamed Cherif Messaadia, secretary of the Central Committee's Permanent Secretariat, today received President of the SDAR Mohamed Abdelaziz who was accompanied by Ould Salek, Polisario Front Politburo member. The latest developments in the Saharan cause and the excellent relations between the two revolutions were at the center of the talks.

LIBYA

Gambian President Arrives for Talks 19 Jan

LD192211 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1900 GMT 19 Jan 85

[Text] Tripoli, 19 January (JANA) — Gambian President Dawda Jawara arrived this evening in Tripoli on a 3-day visit to the Jamahiriyah. Staff Major 'Abd al-Salam Ahmad Jallud headed those who welcomed him and the accompanying delegation at Tripoli International Airport. Also taking part in the welcoming party were members of the General Popular Committee and heads of the diplomatic missions in the Jamahiriyah.

President Dawda Jawara made a statement to JANA in which he said: I am happy to be visiting the Jamahiriyah for the second time. We are linked by good relations and we look forward to meeting the brother leader of the revolution with whom we will review a number of issues of common interest, foremost of which is the Palestinian issue.

Received by Al-Qadhdhafi

LD221003 Tripoli JANA in English 0931 GMT 22 Jan 85

[Text] Tripoli, Jumada Awal 3, Jan 22, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — The leader of the revolution received here last night President Dawda Jawara of the Republic of Gambia. President Jawara also visited the father of the leader of the revolution to inquire about his health.

Al-Qadhdhafi 'Ready' To Settle Chadian Conflict

AB211816 Paris AFP in French 1634 GMT 21 Jan 85

[Text] Paris, 21 Jan (AFP) — Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, leader of the Libyan revolution, has stated that he wants to settle the Chadian problem and says he is still ready "to support any peaceful settlement that will bring all the opposing parties around the same table for negotiaitons."

In an interview granted to the Arabic periodical *KOL EL-ARAB* to be published in Paris on Wednesday, he stressed: "We shall not allow anybody to fight us from Chad or use that country to launch attacks against us. Furthermore, we are opposed to the installation of a regime hostile to Libya's security and the security of our borders."

Recalling that Libya has maintained good relations with the Chadian people, he stressed that Libyans "are in the same trench as the government of Goukouni Oueddei," adding that President Hissein Habre "who is hostile to us, is presently besieged from all sides and I think he is going to fall."

Talking about his last meetings with French President Francois Mitterrand and Spanish Prime Minister Filipe Gonzalez, the Libyan head of state described them as "blows to the United States and to Ronald Reagan in particular...Arabs being able to ally themselves provisionally with secondary enemies in order to confront the big enemies." The Libyan leader felt that these meetings were necessary because they strengthened relations between Libya and the socialist regimes in Western Europe. These meetings, he said, "are meant to promote cooperation between these regimes and the Arabs, and positively reflects on security in the Mediterranean."

Asked about a possible meeting with PLO leader Yasir 'Arafat, Col Al-Qadhdhafi stated that he "no longer needs him" but added that "'Arafat would be welcomed any time in Libya as a Palestinian Arab citizen."

On the conflict between Palestinians, he indicated that "the panoply of fronts and leaders do not serve the Palestinian cause." He added: "I call for and encourage the emergence of an iron-fisted leader who would annihilate all the archaic structures [of the PLO] and would unify the resistance army against the Zionist enemy."

FLN, Jamahiriyah Sides Agree During Talks

LD182045 Algiers Domestic Service in French 1830 GMT 18 Jan 85

[Excerpts] The FLN Party delegation led by Mr Messaadia has ended its visit to Libya. It was a 3-day visit highlighted by political talks between the officials of the Permanent Secretariat of the Central Committee and Colonel al-Qadhdhafi. The talks centered on bilateral cooperation, its strengthening, and on Arab scene developments, particularly in the Maghreb. The two sides agreed on a certain number of issues of common interest.

Al-Turayki Meets With PDRY Foreign Minister

LD201520 Tripoli JANA in English 1419 GMT 20 Jan 84

[Text] Tripoli, Jumada Awal 1, January 20, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — Dr 'Ali al-Turayki, secretary of the General People's Committee for Foreign Liaison Bureau, met last night with Dr 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Dali, foreign minister of the PDRY and the accompanying delegation. During the meeting discussions were focused on the bilateral relations and several other international issues of mutual concern. In addition the two officials discussed the smuggling operation of Ethiopian Jews (Falashas) to occupied Palestine with the assistance of Numayri's regime.

The Yemeni minister informed Dr al-Turayki of his country's approval to Jamahiriyah's call for an emergency session for the Arab foreign ministeral council.

MAURITANIA

Justice Minister Interviewed on Reason for Coup

AB181705 Paris AFP in French 1324 GMT 18 Jan 85

[Text] Paris, 18 Jan (AFP) — "One of the main reasons that prompted Mauritanian President Maayouia Sid Ahmed Ould Taya to seize power from former President Ould Haydala is that the latter failed to keep his pledge of neutrality on the Western Sahara issue," Mauritanian Justice Minister Mahfoud Ould Lemrabott stated in an interview published on Friday by the Saudi daily *AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT*.

"The agreement signed in 1977 between Mauritania and the SDAR provided for the neutrality of Mauritania in the Sahara war, yet Mauritania, under the former regime, put at the disposal of the SDAR its borders, its media, as well as financial means," stated the Mauritanian minister, who is touring the Arab countries of the Gulf to "explain" to the leaders of these countries "the reasons for and the objectives of" the change of regime in Mauritania.

Mr Ould Lemrabott added that the present regime would observe "strict neutrality" in the Sahara conflict and believed that the solution to the conflict could be found in the resolutions adopted by international organizations, notably by the OAU concerning a referendum on Western Sahara.

MOROCCO

Hassan Reportedly To Visit Western Sahara 3 Mar

NC181545 Paris AFP in English 1530 GMT 18 Jan 85

[Text] Paris, Jan 18 (AFP) — Morocco's King Hassan II intends to visit the contested Western Sahara and may make the trip on March 3, the Polisario Front, which is fighting Morocco for control of the territory, said in a statement released here today. Preparations have begun at El Aaiun, the territory's Moroccan-held capital, to prepare for a visit by King Hassan, the Polisario statement said.

The visit was likely to take place on March 3 to coincide with the annual anniversary celebration of the king's accession to the throne in 1961, the statement said. "Bulldozers have knocked down an entire low-income neighborhood to build a palace in its place," it added. The local population has also been "forced to whitewash the walls of its houses," while local traders have been "obliged to give money, carpets, tents, etc." in preparation to greet the king, Polisario said.

There have so far been no reports from Morocco of a possible visit to the area by King Hassan.

El Aaiun is located near the Atlantic coast in the northwest Western Sahara, well behind the massive sand walls Moroccan forces have built to keep Polisario guerrillas out of the northern region, where major phosphate mines are located.

Today's statement came a day after an announcement by Rabat that it had finished building a new defensive wall in the northeast part of the territory, near the Algerian border.

Tunisian Foreign Minister Holds Talks 18 Jan

LD181345 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 18 Jan 85

[Text] The prime minister, Mr Mohamed Karim Lamrani, received this morning at the Presidency Mr Beji Caid Essebsi, Tunisian minister of foreign affairs, who was accompanied by the Tunisian ambassador to Rabat, Mr Saladdine 'Abdellah. The talks, which were attended by the minister of foreign affairs, Dr Abdelouahed Belkeziz, concentrated on the existing relations between the two fraternal countries and the means to develop cooperation in various fields.

During this meeting the prime minister and the Tunisian minister of foreign affairs exchanged views about various problems, especially the situation in the Arab Maghreb.

On this occasion, Mr Beji Caid Essebsi conveyed to Mr Mohamed Karim Lamrani the greetings of his Tunisian counterpart, Mr Mohamed Mzali. This meeting was attended by Mr Rachid Haddawi, the prime minister's adviser.

Comments on Cooperation, Maghreb

LD191415 Rabat MAP in English 1210 GMT 19 Jan 85

[Text] Casablanca, Jan 19 (MAP) — Tunisian Minister of Foreign Affairs Beji Caid Essebsi, left here Friday afternoon [18 January] for Tunis at the end of a three day visit to Morocco, during which he was received by King Hassan II.

In a statement to the Moroccan news agency MAP, the Tunisian minister underlined that his visit was successful, for "Morocco and Tunisia are linked by secular and solid ties and their viewpoints on international issues are close".

Mr Essebsi indicated that his visit aimed at exchanging viewpoints and assessing bilateral relations. These relations are "excellent", Mr Essebsi said, adding that "we agreed on the necessity to further develop our cooperation in the different areas". "We proceeded on the other hand to the assessment of the situation prevailing in the region. In this respct, we evoked the perspectives of the edification of the Grand Maghreb", Mr Essebsi said, qualifying the edification of the Arab Maghreb as "vital for all the states of the region", owing to the challenges they are facing.

On the intense diplomatic activity in the Maghreb, the Tunisian minister said that "this activity was normal" specifying that this activity embodies the will of the concerned countries to overcome obstacles and restore dialogue, which constitutes a starting point to any action.

On a possible holding of a Maghreban summit, Mr Essebsi indicated that a summit is not an end in itself; what is important is that there is a dialogue between the Maghreb leaders, who are keen on building a better and common future.

Prior to his departure Mr Beji caid Essebsi conferred in Rabat with Mr Mohamed Karim Lamrani, Moroccan prime minister. Talks focused on the two countries' relations and on means to consolidate cooperation in different areas.

SUDAN

Further Reportage on 'Republican Brothers'

Four Members Repent

JN191459 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1425 GMT 19 Jan 85

[Text] Khartoum, 19 Jan (SUNA) — 'Awad al-Jid Muhammad Ahmad, minister at the presidential office for legal affairs, announced here today that the four defendants sentenced to death by hanging in connection with the so-called Republican Brothers organization have written messages to the president of the republic in which they declared their repentance, their return to Islam, their repudiation of Mahmud Muhammad Taha's beliefs, and their confession to his apostasy and departure from Islam.

The minister also pointed out that a number of scholars, judges, and officials visited the four defendants who declared their repentance to them. The defendants then performed ablution and said their prayers. The minister added that the president of the republic had earlier instructed a number of scholars and judges to visit the four defendants and convince them to repent.

It is noteworthy that Mahmud Muhammad Taha, leader of the so-called Republican Brothes Oraganization, was hanged yesterday morning, Friday.

Numayri Statement on 'Heretic'

JN211913 Khartoum SUNA in English 1750 GMT 21 Jan 85

[Text] Khartoum, Rabi' Thani 29 Jan 21 (SUNA) — The President of the Republic Ja'far M. Numayri has been following up the news on the downfall of the heretic republican creed on the heels of hanging its founder who recanted Islam, Mahmud Muhammad Taha.

A statement released by the Presidency unveiled that the president had been pleased by the news of the repetence of Taha' followers and their return to the fold of faith.

The followers of Taha, who had been hanged to death for recanting Islam, denounced their belief after his death because they had been convinced that he will not die before accomplishing his mission in the whole world. [sentence as received]

The statement urged the masses to receive the republicans who repent their belief with excitement and pleasure. The statement quoted the president as appealing to the citizens to refrain from insulting those republicans who repent and those who returned to the fold of faith.

The statement directed the Islamic theologist panel which carried out the debate of contest with the republicans and make returned to righteous Islam to explain the issue to those who have not yet repented. The Presidency also said the president instructed the media to facilitate the mission of those Islamic scholars and communicate these contests to the nation to acquaint it with the delusion and heresy that the idea of Taha contains. [sentence as received]

The president asked the judicial bodies to take the necessary legal measures against the remaining republicans who refuse to return to the righteous path and persist to be subjugated to another person instead of Allah.

The republican brothers began renouncing their beliefs massively after the hanging of their leader Mahmud M. Taha last Friday. Taha had been convicted to death by a court for his founding of a new creed and proclaiming himself as a messenger for the second mission of Islam.

SSU Secretary General on Air Attack

JN201625 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1450 GMT 20 Jan 85

[Text] Khartoum, 20 Jan (SUNA) — SSU Secretary General Muhammad 'Abd al-Qadir 'Umar has praised the People's Armed Forces and their brave steadfastness and defense of religion, the homeland, and the revolution. He pointed out that the People's Armed forces have been subjected to a surprise and treacherous attack by hostile planes that are using the most advanced missiles, because the Armed Forces chased the remnants of the outlaws. This came in a speech by 'Abd al-Qadir during the opening of the seventh meeting of the SSU this morning.

The secretary general said that those who carry arms against the homeland do not possess the modern weapons with which the People's Armed Forces have been attacked. He added that they also do not have the skill and ability to use these weapons. This fact confirms the interference of a foreign country in aiding the outlaws. He also said this adds a new dimension to an internal, limited conflict, which has now expanded to include other countries with whom we are not at war and which previously had not disclosed such flagrant and direct hostility.

The secretary general also touched on the current responsibility of the political organization. He stressed the need for the political organization to enlighten the people and make them aware of the plots being hatched against them so they can mobilize all material and human potential to acquaint the world with the threats to our nation and independence. He said that these threats against Sudan would also threaten peace and security in this region. The secretary general has also called for protecting the domestic front with all means in order to safeguard national unity.

The meeting reviewed all the political aspects on the domestic and foreign levels and the political organization's current responsibility.

Equatoria Governor Addresses People on 'Outlaws'

JN211532 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1450 GMT 21 Jan 85

[Text] Khartoum, 21 Jan (SUNA) — Engineer James Tumbura, the governor of the Equatoria region, has denounced the so-called Sudanese Liberation Movement. He said that it is controlled by one tribe — a fact that is obvious from their radio station — and is supported by Libya and Ethiopia.

In a speech to the people in English, Arabic, and local dialects broadcast over Juba radio yesterday, the Equatoria governor said that the aim of this movement is to wage war against Equatoria because it was the first region to demand decentralization and the division of southern Sudan into three regions. The governor exposed the fake independence of the movement and its attempts at misleading some persons from Equatoria, who have been forced to work at primitive jobs. He asked the few people who were forced to join the outlaws to try to return to their towns and villages by any means possible.

Referring to the immoral practices of the so-called Sudanese Liberation Movement, the governor said the people in this region were exposed to robberies and plundering. He added that the so-called Sudanese liberation cannot be carried out by one tribe or through attacking civilians and public vehicles. He described the outlaws and their leaders as mercenaries who work at the behest of a state known for its hostility to the entire Sudanese nation.

Upper Nile Governor on Security in South

JN211540 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1435 GMT 21 Jan 85

[Text] Malakal, 21 Jan [SUNA] — Daniel Koat Matthews, secretary and governor of the Upper Nile Region, has said that his government is working hard to try to convince those who took up arms to return to work for the sake of the homeland's unity, security, and stability.

This came in a statement by Matthews last week before the Upper Nile Region's first regional People's Assembly and after 18 months of transitional rule under his leadership. Matthews told the assembly that his government managed to secure the domestic front. He said his government is extremely hopeful that he will join in confronting development challenges in the region and in protecting national unity against conspiratorial communist allegations against the homeland's unity.

In another development, the governor said that the security situation is very stable and that the citizens are leading a normal life. He said that by applying Islamic law, President Numayri is seeking to safeguard the people's interest, spread affection and love among the people, and reinforce ethics in society.

Kidnapped Sudanese Official Escapes 'Outlaws'

JN211548 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1440 GMT 21 Jan 85

[Text] Khartoum, 21 Jan (SUNA) — James Sijin, executive director of the Al-Wahdah Province in the Upper Nile Region, was able to escape from the group of outlaws that kidnapped him in the Bentiu area while he was touring with a group that included the Al-Wahdah Province commissioner and his aides. A responsible source at the General Command of the People's Armed Forces said that Sijin managed to join one of the People's Armed Forces units in the (Adulf) area. The source said that this exposes the lies and allegations of the outlaws that Sijin and others had joined them.

The source said that James Sijin is an example of the steadfastness and firmness of the Sudanese people in general and the southerners in particular against those who want to destroy and undermine the development projects and waste the homeland's resources. Those outlaws have raised the slogans of Marxism and Leninism for their failing movements.

SPLA Radio: 800 Government Troops 'Annihilated'

EA181543 (Clandestine) Radio of the Sudanese People's Liberation Army in English 1300 GMT 18 Jan 85

[Text] SPLA [Sudanese People's Liberation Army] forces in Equatoria under the command of Commander (Otor Nobo) annihilated an enemy battalion of about 800 men commanded by a lieutenant colonel on 16 January 1985. The enemy force that was travelling in 16 vehicles was heading to Winji Pool, the former headquarters of General Lagu during the Anyanya Movement, to establish a new camp.

The SPLA forces in the area got wind of this and occupied Winji Pool 2 days before the enemy arrived. The enemy forces were attacked by SPLA forces [words indistinct]. The attack resulted in the complete destruction of nine vehicles and the capture of seven in good working condition, which were subsequently set on fire as the SPLA could not use them. The vehicles included three armored personnel carriers, two T-55 tanks, four commercial lorries and seven Magirus Army trucks.

The SPLA forces are still collecting the enemy dead for burial. By 0900 yesterday morning 403 enemy bodies had been collected from in and around Winji Pool. tHe body of the colonel who was commanding the enemy forces has not been found and his whereabout are not known. A captured commercial lorry driver identified the colonel as Colonel Sabah.

The SPLA forces captured most of the enemy battalions arms and equipment which include: 9 82-mm mortars in good working condition; 12 42-machine guns in good working condition; 273 G-2 automatic rifles in good working condition; 4 long-range signal sets in good working condition: 6 (Garonov) machine guns destroyed by fire; 3 anti-aircraft 12.7-mm gun destroyed by fire; 3 long-range wireless transmitting sets, not in good working condition destroyed.

Foreign Aid Charges Denied

EA191538 (Clandestine) Radio of the Sudanese People's Liberation Army in English 1300 GMT 19 Jan 85

[Text] A spokesman for the SPLA [Sudanese People's Liberation Army] has denied allegations by the Sudanese Government that in the battle of Winji Pool, SPLA forces were given air support by a foreign country. He went on to say that these allegations by Numayri are to (?strengthen) support from his Western sympathizers. Numayri is only trying to cover the absolute defeat of his army at Winji Pool by SPLA forces, he completed.

SPLA-SPLM Calls on Members To Defect From Forces

EA211347 (Clandestine) Radio of the Sudanese People's Liberation Army in English 1300 GMT 21 Jan 85

[Text] In a statement to Radio SPLA [Sudanese People's Liberation Army] this morning, a spokesman for the SPLA-SPLM has issued a final warning ordering all members of the SPLA clandestine cells in the Army, police, prison, and Wildlife Department in War Zone No 1 to defect immediately and join the SPLA forces within their easy reach.

In a special reference to Juba, he went on to say that the attack and capture of Juba is not only imminent but will be a reality in a matter of days.

He has also appealed to all the members of the organized forces in Juba to join the SPLA forces around Juba before it is too late. We would not like our supporters caught in cross fire, he concluded.

Defections Reported

EA211602 (Clandestine) Radio of the Sudanese People's Liberation Army in English 1300 GMT 21 Jan 85

[Text] One hundred and ninety-one members of the police and wildlife force in Rumbek, the capital of Lakes Province, have defected with all their weapons and joined the Sudanese People's Liberation Army [SPLA] forces in the area commanded by Lieutenant Colonel (P.S.T.) Martin Makur Aleo.

The police force, numbering 109, was led by Sergeant-Major (Adenigo Akol Ayun Yun) and the wildlife force, numbering 72, was led by Martin Nyal (Owol), inspector of Wildlife Department in the province.

It is to be recalled that more than 40 members of the prison force in the same province defected and joined the SPLA forces in the area last week. We will read you the names of the police and wildlife defectors after this news bulletin.

In another development, 35 government officials and chiefs in Bor town and the surrounding villages have defected and joined the SPLA-SPLM.

SPLA Radio Reports Mutiny Among Government Troops

EA211436 (Clandestine) Radio of the Sudanese People's Liberation Army in English 1300 GMT 21 Jan 85

[Text] Numayri's Regime faces yet another mutiny of its troops in Bor, the capital of Jonglei province. According to Radio SPLA's [Sudanese People's Liberation Army] special correspondent in southern Upper Nile operational zone, members of the government forces sympathetic to the SPLA-SPLM [Sudanese People's Liberation Movement] mutinied on 19 January 1985. In the battle that ensued the commander of the Bor garrison, Lieutenant Colonel Awad (al-Shaykh) was killed. Fighting between the two factions which included the use of light weapons and mortars was still going on until yesterday morning.

TUNISIA

Foreign Minister Briefs President on Moroccan Visit

LD191629 Tunis TAP in French 1300 GMT 19 Jan 85

[Text] Carthage, 19 Jan (TAP) — This morning President Habib Bourguiba received Mr Beji Caid Essebsi, the Tunisian minister of foreign affairs.

Following the meeting, Mr Beji Caid Essebsi said: "I conveyed to his excellency the president of the republic a message of affection and respect from King Hassan II of Morocco, and the Moroccan sovereign's desire to strengthen the privileged relations between Tunisia and Morocco by increasing and consolidating cooperation in all fields.

"I also informed the head of state of his majesty the king's views on the situation in the region and the prospects for joint action to build the Great Maghreb, according to the interests of the peoples of the Maghreb and in response to their aspirations. I also reported to the president of the republic on the content of the talks I had with the Moroccan prime minister, the minister of foreign affairs, the king's adviser, and several Moroccan ministers."

ETHIOPIA

Mengistu Addresses Cadres on Resettlement

EA191855 Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic 1713 GMT 19 Jan 85

[Speech by Mengistu Haile Mariam, secretary general of the Workers Party of Ethiopia (WPE) Central Committee and PMAC chairman, at the conclusion of a 3-day seminar for WPE resettlement program cadres, in WPE congress hall on 18 January — recorded]

[Text] Dear comrades, vanguard comrades of our party present here today. Since you are being deployed in particular to implement the rehabilitation program, as part of the all-out efforts being made by our party, the revolutionary government, mass organizations and all the people to combat the extremely ugly situation brought upon us by natural and man-made problems, and whose deployment is fundamental to solving our problems; and since you are being deployed to register another historic victory in the complex process of our class struggle, I above all feel great honor and pride when conveying congratulations on your selection for this great popular and revolutionary responsibility [applause].

Dear comrades, as has often been said, our country, Ethiopia, is one from which numerous famous rivers in Africa flow which are crucial to the existence of many other countries. It is a country rich in various minerals and especially one that has people who are stalwart, guardians of their territorial boundaries and freedom, and who are a proud people with a history. Even so, the fact that the material and spiritual springboard of our revolution is extremely backward by any standard, due to the methods of divide and rule and keep illiterate and rule practiced by the previous reactionary system, and due to the extremely backward system of production, is not a point about which we argue today. Reports, based on evidence, make it very clear to all of us.

Therefore, since its inception our revolution has grown with the priority aim of assessing and eradicating the general causes for the oppression, exploitation, and backwardness of the working people of Ethiopia, and establishing a system in which equality, justice, social peace, and mutual prosperity prevail. What we have done, as our primary means towards this, is to work toward a balanced growth in all sectors of the economy, enhancing the spring of impetus for development through coordination so that material production grows, and by creating suitable conditions for the fulfillment of the desires of the working people.

Because it is imperative to give priority to and focus on the development of the agricultural sector in our present situation, we have been doing everything within our power to change the organization of that sector and strengthen executive organizations.

However, we have not found it an easy task. To change the technological base of agriculture to the desired scale and to change the organizational and working characteristics of the peasant has not been without its problems. Instead, and in addition to the technological, financial, and managerial shortages that we face in our efforts to acquire industrial material, foreign exchange, and food crops by increasing the productivity of state farm land, the drought caused by adverse weather changes apparent on an international scale today has made our efforts more complicated and difficult.

As indicated by the basic research completed, the unreliable rain that falls is a chronic event evident since mankind started accumulating data. While the main cause for this is the general climatic change in the world, the situation has been aggravated by man-made deeds. The drought evident today in most western and eastern African countries is a compound result of these two phenomena. In these African countries, numbering not less than 34, over 120 million people are currently in great need.

The drought in our country is part of this general phenomena and has two basic characteristics that make it different from other droughts in the past. These are, first, while the duration of previous droughts was for 1 to 2 years, the recent drought that affects our country has continued uninterruptedly for many years. The fact is that there has not been a single year that the Relief and Rehabilitation Commission [RRC], formed at the beginning of our revolution, has not provided food and related needs on a large or small scale to compatriots needing help because of the drought. This is the prime proof of this fact.

The second characteristic that differs from previous droughts regards the large-scale expansion and spread of the drought. This aspect, which characterises the continent, is related to many complex events. In particular, global adverse climatic changes, the annual southerly movement of the Sahara Desert, and the destruction of forests and pastureland are all principal causes of this situation. The current expansion of drought conditions, which until now hit only one or two regions in a single period, to other regions, makes it clear to everyone that our continent and in particular our motherland is experiencing an extremely trying and critical situation.

It is known that the revolutionary government has given priority attention to overcoming this difficult situation and has done all it can within its means. In particular, it was possible to deliver food, medicine, and clothing to over 5 million of our compatriots, by forecasting the problems that would follow the failure of the 1983/84 spring rains and by taking the appropriate steps. However, the amount of rain expected in the rainy season did not fall, in addition to the seasonal change of rain, its uneven distribution, and totally changed pattern in some regions. Hence, the lives of not less than 9 million of our compatriots are in a horrific condition today.

Since its inception, the Worker's Party of Ethiopia [WPE] Central Committee Politburo has given priority to this national problem, and following exhaustive discussions at its second regular session, drafted a plan of action that incorporates emergency and short-term measures, and has practicably implemented them at all levels. I believe the fact that our Politburo members are responsibly leading the implementation of the planned activities in all sectors clearly shows the attention we have focused on the situation.

One part of the action plan is the rehabilitation or resettlement program through which we will solve the quagmire of why we are in need while possessing so much, and why we are beggars when we can lend.

Dear comrades the total area of our revolutionary motherland is approximately 122.4 million hectares. While roughly 84 million hectares of this is suitable for farming, it is estimated that currently only 13.8 million hectares of this is being farmed.

In other words, over 70 million hectares of land suitable for agriculture has not yet been touched. Of the 13.8 million hectares used for farming at least 3.5 million hectares lie fallow annually for various reasons. On the other hand, while it is known that over 3 million hectares in the valleys of our country can be developed through irrigation, the amount of land utilized today is less than 100,000 hectares. It is above all disheartening to note how those regions where virgin land is found, where the climate is reliable and where there are streams and rivers that can be easily diverted or dammed for use, and a sufficiency of water all year round exists, are now wasted.

If some individuals who have toured these regions state that the main cause for our hunger is laziness we should not be hurt, but are obligated to accept this truth. This situation cannot be allowed to continue. Our productive citizens living in regions where the [soil] fertility is exhausted and which are slowly becoming desert due to continuous cultivation over many centuries, should settle in the above-mentioned areas. We must produce by joining our hands to our virgin land without waiting for the services of modern technology. From now on our hunger should stop. [applause]. There can be no force that the WPE can deploy in front of its vanguard cadres to ensure the implementation of the great revolutionary task that is saving the lives of millions of people and laying the foundations for permanent development.

Dear comrades, since this rehabilitation program which we are implementing today on a wide scale has a wider aim related to our future goal, the scale of deployment will accordingly be wide. As I have attempted to mention earlier, the lives of many millions of our citizens are in extreme danger. We may not be able to feel the gravity of the situation when it is expressed through words.

However, for those who have witnessed events on the spot, seeing those, struggling with age, weakened by disease, the skeletal life of millions of elderly, seeing children, the budding new generation that will replace us, who do not understand the cause and reasons, who cannot help themselves and cannot cope with the situation in any way, falling in the thousands, is an event that makes it difficult to express or control feelings that boggle the mind and deny peace of mind.

Therefore, the primary objective of our work is to immediately change this horrific situation and quickly save the lives of millions of our compatriots. [applause]

On the other hand, since there is no guarantee that the drought will not continue in the future, we have to find an answer to the question of how long the aid we are giving to save the lives of our compatriots can continue? As is clear to any human being with a bright mind, no matter how rich a country is, if it does not develop and expand its wealth it can only use it for a limited time. Therefore, the only alternative we have, after saving lives, is to elevate the consciousness, dedication to work, and proletarian discipline of our compatriots, and make them strong producers. This task in itself requires very complex and great effort.

Before anything else, the settlers must be given shelter. In this respect our struggling comrades in areas where resettlement is being conducted (?have been given priority) [words indistinct]. When seen in the light of the number of people we are resettling, and since there is still much to do, much effort and sacrifice is called for from you, the vanguard cadres of our party. In addition, although our recipient compatriots have moved from their previous homes to resettlement centers, government help will continue until they can support themselves through their produce. Government help around resettlement areas is intended to make the settler productive and self-supporting as soon as possible. Even now, its implementation is wide in type and volume.

The government will initially provide the settlers with provisions and household goods. A strong leadership and close follow-up is needed to make certain that this assistance arrives correctly and on time.

In addition, ensuring sufficient medical care to the settlers who have been hurt by food shortages and have thus become prone to disease will be another one of our important tasks.

Another important task that should be carried out side by side with medical care is ensuring environmental cleanliness through the basic health program. Since this includes the broad program of digging latrines, preparing garbage pits, personal hygiene and use of drinking water, the contribution expected from our cadres for the implementation of this program is very high.

The main objective of our program, to make the settlers self-reliant within a year, incorporates numerous fields of activities. According to the resettlement plan, each resettlement camp has 500 families who will settle on 2,500 hectares of land. In accordance with the directives issued on the establishment of villages and the preparation of farm land, all types of work including surveying, clearing land, construction of houses, farming, weeding, harvesting, livestock farming, and natural resource conservation will be carried out.

Our party is doing all it can to ensure the successful implementation of all this, and will continue to do so in the future. However, the decisive factor is the strengthened activity of the settlers, who will assume the responsibility of developing the area they live in through a coordinated workforce. In this respect it is not difficult to see that the responsibilities given to cadres in ensuring that our party's directives are correctly implemented in agitating and organizing the settlers to ensure that they coordinate their forces to carry out the work, will not afford them a minute's rest.

This above all requires relentless agitprop work and strengthened and matured organizational work to build the settlers morale, uproot thorns in the mud [expression meaning hidden antipeople elements] who propogate antiresettlement and antipeople talk, defend the security of the area they live in, and get them to

participate, just like any other peasant, in the administrative, judicial, social, and political work of their area. [applause]

In general, as the field of work you will be deployed in is one in which you will organize the new political system for which we are struggling, to increase the leadership role of our party and create a new human being and a new life, great sacrifices are expected from each of you. You should be fighters who believe in creating a fighter better than oneself, when one passes away, to guarantee the continuation of the ideal that does not die. This is a communist gauge. [applause] In the intense, comprehensive, class struggle that Ethiopia is engaged in today, the cadre required by the WPE is not one satisfied by his simple existence but one who will sacrifice himself for the program we have formulated and to guarantee the freedom of the worker. [applause] We have great confidence in you that just as our revolutionary army has made sacrifices in the country's four corners to protect the revolution, you will also emerge victorious on your front by following that example. [applause]

Comrades, our confidence is strong because we believe you will put into practice the meaning of our party's banner as you embark on this resettlement program campaign, which is the first of its kind, at the dawn of our party's formation and under the banner of our party. [applause] Our banner shows determination in our objectives, heroism, and in general the fruit of sacrifices and our bright hope for the future. [applause] This banner is an allegiance to keep it through sacrifice. [applause] Make it fly victorious always and everywhere.[applause] Respect it, love it, like it, make it fly high, and bring nature under control [applause].

Dear comrades, the areas selected for the resettlement program are those still covered by forests and where social services have not yet been established. Hence, the areas where you will be deployed are those that will test your ability to work under difficult circumstances. Your efforts to teach the peasant and learn from him my studying the characters of the resettlers and their daily activities may demand a different form of approach and patience. The task of making our compatriots self-reliant and sufficiently productive by working relentlessly day and night to clear forests, build houses, and transport and resettle thousands of compatriots is a difficult historic challenge. To emerge victorious demands putting the peoples' interests before one's own, and a willingness and ability to make sacrifices without bowing to problems.

As this program is the first work deployment of our party, and because it should make a special contribution to the world revolutionary movement and be recognized as exemplary work in which people struggled against nature and emerged victorious under the leadership of communists in Africa for the first time, no excuse or weakness is expected. [applause] There may be a number of you not experienced in this huge task of [word indistinct] and organizing people. Lack of experience might bring limited problems but is not decisive on its own. The important thing is your strong faith in the resettlement program and your willingness to rally your knowledge and ability for its implementation.

The decisive factor is being exemplary and hard working in action. [applause] The important thing is your relentless struggle to shorten the time it takes to become capable cadres by not giving up under trying problems that will occasionally arise. We are very confident that you will carry out your tasks efficiently once this is realized. [applause]

Nothing can make true cadres more proud than to relate the present to the lasting values, prepare themselves for the responsibility their party has placed on them and the historical trust they have accepted, and prepare the people for making history. [applause] Comrades, this is why it is said that communists live for others and not for themselves, and work for tomorrow and not for today. It is only through action that the solidarity of objectives, ideological strength, and organizational maturity can be measured. Through your work, not only will the firmness of your objectives, ideological strength, and organizational maturity be measured, but the leadership of our party, the meaning of our revolution, and our peoples refusal to bow to pressures of nature and mankind will again be weighed by the world community's conscience. [applause]

I strongly remind you that having been chosen for this organizational duty is historic; however, what is decisive is to carry out the duty efficiently. I assure you not only of our party's close assistance in your work, but also that it will always be with you. [applause] We will quickly save our compatriots who are in the throes of death. We will conquer nature and destroy hunger. We will make our motherland, which has been renowned for centuries for her fertility and natural wealth, but which is poor and backward, a bread basket. [applause] We will confront and overcome all natural and man-made problems which are a hinderance to our security and growth and our march forward. [applause] There is no power that can stop us from reaching our aims and marching forward. [applause]

Curfew Lifted for Church Festival 18 Jan

EA181833 Addis Ababa in Amharic to Neighboring Countries 1600 GMT 18 Jan 85

[Text] Curfew has been lifted for tonight on the occasion of Epiphany which will be celebrated in Ethiopia tomorrow. A PMAC spokesman pointed out that it was necessary to lift the curfew tonight to facilitate the movement of churchgoers.

200 Government Troops Killed in Clash with TPLF

LD201421 (Clandestine) Voice of the Broad Masses of Eritrea in Amharic 0500 GMT 20 Jan 85

[Text] Intensifying their military activity in Gonder, the gallant fighters of the TPLF [Tigre People's Liberation Front] punished two detachments of the 119th brigade of the Dergue army on 14 January between Debark and Dabat, and three detachments of the same brigade at a place called (Wokme) on 15 January. During this battle the fighters killed 200 Dergue troops and captured 20 others. They have also captured 45 guns, two RTU-7 [as heard], various shells and quantities of ammunition. They also burned out a vehicle carrying a 14.5 antiaircraft gun.

Rebels Allege Government Executions of Captured

EA201446 (Clandestine) Voice of the Broad Masses of Eritrea in Amharic 0500 GMT 20 Jan 85

[Text] Dergue troops, who are messengers of destruction, opened fire on gallant EPLF [Eritrean People's Liberation Front] fighters who were captured on the battlefield and were confined in Sembel prison in Asmera on 9 January. They killed four fighters and wounded seven others. The next day 23 fighters who were prisoners of war were executed at a place called (Kushet) by order of General Merid Niguse, who is the Dergue representative in Eritrea. Twelve other fighters were also taken to a special court for extensive interrogations.

Rebel Radio Reports Attacks in Dec, Jan

EA201456 (Clandestine) Voice of Western Somali and Abo Liberation Fronts in Somali 0930 GMT 20 Jan 85

[Text] The intrepid fighters of the Western Somali Liberation Front, WSLF, completely destroyed a vehicle by fire and killed all the enemy soldiers from the black colonialist Abyssinian forces who were travelling in it at a place 30 km from Gode town on 31 December 1984.

The report adds that on 10 January the gallant fighters of WSLF launched a surprise attack on a convoy of enemy vehicles at a place along the road to El Kere, 10 km from El Kere town. The WSLF fighters burned one vehicle, killing 7 soldiers and wounding 10 others from the black colonialist Abyssinian troops. The forces of the Abyssinian regime heading for El Kere town could not easily pass the road to the town. After their successful mission, the WSLF fighters returned safely to their base.

TANZANIA

Treason Trial for 19 Accused Begins 21 Jan

EA211926 Dar es Salaam External Service in English 1600 GMT 21 Jan 85

[Text] The Tanzania High Court today was told how 14 army officers and 5 civilians were involved in a treason case in which they are charged with 4 counts. The accused are charged with plotting to overthrow the Government of the United Republic by unlawful means, to kill the president of the United Republic, remove him from power unlawfully and misprision of treason — that is, failing to take measures to expose the plot which they were allegedly aware of.

The case is presided over by Judge Kiongozi, Ndugu Nasoro Nzavas, assisted by three assessors, Ndugu Lawrence Saguti, Ndugu Anne Kirundu, and Alhaj Mohamed Kungulilo.

The director of public prosecutions, Ndugu William Segule, told the high court that the accused, who earlier denied the charges made against them, still have a case to answer under sections 31 and 41 of the penal code.

During the trial, the first witness for the prosecution, Ndugu Abdalla Shaaban Mohamed, who was a taxi driver in 1982, narrated how the first accused, Hatibu Gandhi Alias Hatty Macghee, used his car in plotting to overthrow the government. He said Gandhi used his taxi which he hired at one thousand shillings daily to drive the fourth accused, Captain Metusela Kamando, the sixth accused Cpt Rodrick Roushan Roberts and one Mohamed Tamin, Alias (Martin) Tamim, to attend meetings which took place at the 16th accused's, George Danyikwa, house at drive-in area in Dar es Salaam. Other meetings were held at Capt Kamando's house at the Airwing Ukonga.

Ndugu Abdalla said the accused told him that there was a need to overthrow the government and possibly to kill the president following serious problems facing the country. He said that he was told by Gandhi that the problems were acute shortage of food, poor leadership, and bad roads. The witness told the High Court that later he decided to meet the director of intelligence services, Dr Mahiga, on 15 December 1982 to inform him on very important issues, and finally the two met on 2 January 1983.

Ndugu Abdalla said after narrating the story, the director promised him to make a follow-up and asked him to meet regularly to give him more information on the plot.

Cross-examining him, the defense advocate for the first three accused, Hatibu Gandhi, Cpt Christopher Kadego, and Lieutenant Eugene Maganga, Ndugu Murtaza Lakha, said the witness told the High Court lies because his statement and evidence differed. Giving an example, Ndugu Lakha said the witness in his statement said he informed Dr Mahiga on his trip to Harare, while giving evidence today he denied to have informed him.

The case has been adjourned until tomorrow when the first witness will continue to be cross-examined.

Finland's Vayrynen Arrives for Talks

LD172121 Helsinki Domestic Service in Finnish 1700 GMT 17 Jan 85

[Text] Foreign Minister Paavo Vyrynen arrived today on an official visit to Tanzania and started talks at once this morning with his host, Tanzanian Foreign Minister Benjamin Mkapa.

The talks dealt with the situation in southern Africa, disarmament, and bilateral development cooperation between Finland and Tanzania. Vayrynen also met today with Tanzanian President Julius Nyerere and Prime Minister Salim A. Salim.

In addition to Dar es Salaam, Vayrynen will visit Zanzibar and Arusha. From Tanzania, Vayrynen is to leave for Zambia on Sunday and go on to Zimbabwe.

UGANDA

Obote Says Government Controls Security

EA181637 Kampala Domestic Service in English 0950 GMT 18 Jan 85

[Speech by Milton Obote, president of Uganda, at 18 Jan Makerere University Graduation Ceremony — Live]

[Excerpts] All forms of freedom are fully enjoyed here on the campus and indeed throughout the country. There are not many Third World countries which, after nearly 10 years of brutal rule in which no form of freedom was enjoyed, began to rise and maintain law and order with virtually no police force. Whether our detractors at home or abroad accept it or not, we are proud that Uganda can be counted among such few countries. [applause]

In 1981, soon after the present government came into office, when half of the strength of the then embrionic Ugandan National Liberation Army deserted, taking with them uniforms and arms, there was fear at that time that such a large number of men would create problems for the government and the people in all corners of the country. That has [word indistinct] happened. Men of violence have been contained in a small area of the country.

On account of the government being in control of the security situation, production, particularly of food and export crops, has continued to increase. The result is that the peoples' standard of living has risen and is rising. With increased production it follows that government revenue must also increase, (?including) government revenue, will make it possible for government to put more resources into the rehabilitation and development of Makerere University.

In a world where the terms of trade work viciously against Third World countries, we must design new policies for the consolidation of our independence and self-sufficiency, at least in food. Drought conditions which afflicted the African Continent have brought into sharp relief the importance of self-sufficiency in food.

The policies of food aid is a new phenomenon in the continuous struggle by developing countries like Uganda to maintain their dignity and control of their internal and external policy. [Words indistinct] like the international economic order are set by developed countries. Third World countries find it more and more difficult to abide by those standards. Indeed for all Third World countries, every effort to abide by those standards is an exercise in tightrope walking. We are told that we must insure constitutional and democratic government, that we must ensure the rule of law, that we must ensure the enjoyment of human rights by all citizens.

As the Third World countries (?step) out to establish the parameters of such standards to (?operate), the same countries are told: stop, produce evidence of your willingness to abandon [word indistinct] rule, abandon the rule of law, abandon human rights, instead proceed quickly to accomodate into government gunmen, men of violence and all who do not believe in constitutional government. Pressure is put upon the Third World country on the grounds that the developed countries have to satisfy public opinion in their lands. Public opinion in Third World countries is not taken into account and does not exist in their reckoning. Governments in Third World countries are sometimes ordered to ensure free and fair elections but should any party in a Third World country want to pursue independent policy, win that election, (?racist) propaganda will be launched immediately alleging that the elections are rigged.

The most humiliating aspect of this form of international relations is the order some developed countries say to Third World countries. It goes like this: Make no friends with whoever we do not approve of. Make no friends with whoever we do not approve of. I know these conditions because I have gone through them. They are like directives I sometimes give in my office which are impossible to fulfill [laughter]. And even if one attempts to fulfill, that person may end up dead. I sometimes give orders where I say call me so and so. Ask him to come at breakneck speed but he must not and he must ensure not to break his neck. Many have come to my office at such speed and fortunately no one has so far broken his neck. I do also hope that in our endeavour to strengthen our country, to strengthen our economy, to strengthen and (?marshall) the greater unity of Uganda we shall not break our neck.

Young graduands, we send you out today into the harsh world, do not be disheartened. Work hard for yourselves, work hard for your fellow citizens, work hard for your country, work hard for God. I say all this for God and my country. [applause]

CAMEROON

President Biya Receives Mauritanian Minister

AB182030 Yaounde Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 18 Jan 85

[Text] The head of state, President Paul Biya, this afternoon received in audience the Mauritanian minister of culture, youth, and sports, Ba Mahmoud. Ba Mahmoud was bearer of a special message from Mauritanian leader Colonel Ahmed Ould Taya to President Paul Biya. He said Mauritania has maintained neutrality as far as Western Sahara is concerned because she considers the conflicting parties as brothers.

President Biya Receives Message from Congo Leader

AB211935 Yaounde Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 21 Jan 85

[Text] The head of state, President Paul Biya, this morning received a special envoy of Congolese President Denis Sassou-Nguesso. Speaking to reporters after the meeting, Mr (Ekwebe), diplomatic counselor to the Congolese leader, said that the message was in relation to certain problems of the Central African Economic Community.

Biya Reduces Prison Terms for Specific Crimes

AB200730 Yaounde Domestic Service in English 1400 GMT 19 Jan 85

[Text] President Paul Biya has signed a decree reducing prison terms for specific crimes. For details on the presidential decree here is Tubman Epsi Nguom:

With effect from today, 19 January, those condemned to death but whose sentences had been commuted to life imprisonment before 1 January 1980 will serve 25 years of imprisonment. Those sentenced to life imprisonment but whose sentences had not yet been commuted will, following today's decree, serve 20 years. A reduction of 5 years to persons originally condemned to death and whose sentences have already been commuted to temporal imprisonment before 1 January 1980. A reduction of 4 years to persons originally condemned to life imprisonment but already committed to temporal imprisonment before 1 January 1980. A reduction of 3 years to persons serving jail terms equal to or less than 20 years. A reduction of 2 years to persons serving jail terms equal to or less than 20 years but more than 10 years. A reduction of 1 year to persons serving jail terms equal to or less than 10 years but not less than 5 years. A reduction of 6 months to persons serving jail terms equal to or less than 5 years or more than 3 years. A reduction of 3 months to persons serving jail terms equal to or less than 6 months. All those serving jail terms of 6 months have been freed.

The present decree does not apply to persons who are presently escapees from prison, to persons sent to jail or sentenced by military tribunal, to persons jailed or sentenced for the following crimes:

1. assassination or murder,

2. aggravated or simple theft,

3. embezzlement of public funds,

4. bounced checks,

and to detainees who are being prosecuted for crimes committed while supposed to be under detention.

CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

Constitution to be Submitted to People 'Soon'

AB181550 Paris AFP in French 1302 GMT 18 Jan 85

[Text] Bangui, 18 Jan (AFP) -- The CAR head of state, General Andre Kolingba, announced on Friday that very soon a constitution will be submitted to the people for approval. While waiting for the organization of this popular consultation, whose date was not specified, President Kolingba invited the Central Africans to show more respect for the ban on political activities that was decreed on 1 September 1981.

The CAR head of state, who was laying the cornerstone of the National Assembly in the presence of members of the Military Committee for National Redress, ambassadors, chiefs of diplomatic missions, and the constituted bodies, ordered the security services to act along these lines before calling for "the sense of responsibility that should guide all Central Africans."

More on Kolingba Plans

AB181805 Paris AFP in English 1703 GMT 18 Jan 85

[Text] Bangui, Jan 18 (AFP) — Citizens will soon be asked to approve Central African Republic's second constitution since the overthrow of Emperor Bokassa in 1979, the head of the military government, General Andre Kolingba, said today.

In a speech at the laying of the cornerstone for a National Assembly building in Bangui, General Kolingba warned the two main illegal opposition parties against violations of the ban on political party activity he decreed when he seized power in 1981. General Kolingba gave no details on the constitution or on the plebiscite he seemed to be announcing. The National Assembly Hall is being built with aid from North Korea. Central African Republic, population about 2.5 million, is one of the world's poorest countries with a per capita GNP of 280 dollars.

The Kolingba junta, called the National Military Recovery Committee, suspended the multi-party constitution of February 1981 when in September of that year it overthrew President David Dacko, who had himself deposed Bokassa in September 1979 with French military backing. The military regime said as early as 1983 that it intended a return to constitution rule in 1985 with a presidential election, creation of a parliament and the formation of a single political party.

In his speech today, General Kolingba denounced the Centrafrican People's Liberation Front of Ange Patasse, who went into exile in Togo after a failed coup attempt in March 1982, and the Ubangi Patriotic Front-Labor Party of Abel Goumba, which two parties he said had been responsible for all the attempts to destabilize his regime. The general claimed that the oppositionists spent their time "traveling from foreign capital to foreign capital seeking arms and accomplices". He also said agitators had turned up at the university and in school last year trying to exploit the economic crisis to organize a threat to the regime.

General Kolingba made no mention of General Alphonse Mbaikoua, who the Bangui authorities believe was behind a commando attack on the town of Martounda, on the border with Chad, last November in which four rebels and security force members were killed. General Mbaikoua was also reported to have been involved in the March 1982 coup attempt with General Francois Bozize and Mr Patasse.

Mr Goumba, the opposition leader, was among 53 political detainees freed by the military regime in a new year's amnesty three weeks ago, along with former Bokassa premier Henri Maidou and former Dacko premier Simon Narcisse Bozanga. Several people jailed for the 1982 coup attempt had their sentences reduced.

Sudanese Arrive To Attend Joint Commission

AB211951 Bangui Domestic Service in French 1800 GMT 21 Jan 85

[Excerpt] The second session of the CAR-Sudan Joint High Commission meeting will open in Bangui tomorrow. Hashim 'Uthman, Sudanese minister of foreign affairs, who is leading a large delegation comprised of nine members, arrived in Bangui today. He was met at the airport by his CAR counterpart, Second Lieutenant Clement Michel Nga Gnii-Voeto, minister of foreign affairs and international cooperation.

CHAD

Figures Released on U.S., French Aid

AB191315 Paris AFP in English 0724 GMT 19 Jan 85

[Text] Ndjamena, Jan 19 (AFP) — The United States gave more aid to the Chadian regime of President Hissein Habre last year than Chad's chief ally, France, did itself, according to figures released here Friday.

A document from the U.S. AID office said 30 million dollars of U.S. aid went to Chad last year. French aid over the same period totalled nearly 28 million dollars. The U.S. aid is expected to increase this year, with food shipments rising from 38,000 to some 50,000 tonnes. About 25 million dollars of U.S. aid is budgeted over five years for repairing Chad's roads. Credits of 12.5 million dollars are to be made available to U.S. firms to develop Chad's agriculture. U.S. military aid to Chad, mainly spare parts, is expected to stay at about five million dollars.

Two top U.S. State Department African Affairs officials, Princeton Lyman and Robert Maxem, visited Ndjamena earlier this month. The Reagan administration backed France's dispatch of 2,000 troops to Chad to help Mr Habre fight Libyan-backed rebels who control northern Chad. The French troops withdrew last year.

Bardai Radio on Regime Turning to U.S. Aid

AB191019 (Clandestine) Bardai Chadian National Radio in French 1800 GMT 18 Jan 85

[Text] Two months have already elapsed since the preliminary meeting on national reconciliation in Chad. Since that time, every effort made by African leaders to organize a roundtable meeting on the peaceful settlement of the Chadian conflict has been unsuccessful. Furthermore, all indications are that as long as the Ndjamena puppet group does not abandon its extremist stand, the deadlock will persist. [Words indistinct] in fact, since the announcement of the Franco-Libyan disengagement agreement and its implementation on the field, the antinational clique has left no stone unturned in the search for new extremist points in order to embark again on the path of military adventurism in the north, center and center-east of the country.

Is the United States determined to play the military role abandoned by France? In any case, their activities in the diplomatic and military fields give cause to think so. The recent mysterious visit of Princeton Lyman, under secretary for African affairs at the State Department, is further proof of this. Quietly turning to the United States in order to obtain from Washington what the French Government declined to do for him seems to be the alternative formula found by the leader of the reactionary horde. Even though the U.S. Administration considers Chad to be under French influence, it could not remain (?indifferent) to the tempting offer by the (?horde) [passage indistinct].

Bardai Radio on Regime Ties With France, Africa

AB212058 (Clandestine) Bardai Chadian National Radio in French 1800 GMT 21 Jan 85

[Station commentary]

[Text] Relations between Cairo and Ndjamena have been reactivated. Butrus Ghali, Egyptian minister of state for foreign affairs, is currently touring some African capitals to (?launch) a diplomatic counteroffensive on behalf of the Americans for their Ndjamena ally.

The leader of Egyptian diplomacy has already gone to Abidjan, a few days before the arrival of Roland Dumas, the new French external relations minister. Before the arrival of the two ministers, Houphouet-Boigny had the pleasure of receiving an envoy from Ndjamena. What then are all these people doing in the Ivorian capital? According to some observers, the Ivorian head of state is reported not to have liked the way France is going about helping in the settlement of the Chadian peoblem. The Ivorian (?authorities) are said to be suspicious about a rapprochement between France and Libya. Roland Dumas therefore has a very delicate mission in the Ivorian capital — to explain France's

position. In Africa and elsewhere, France's best friends no longer judge France's attitude in the same way.

Contrary to the Ivory Coast, Senegal has expressed happiness over the new French policy, and consequently President Abdou Diouf paid glowing tribute to Colonel Al-Qadhdhafi. According to our permanent correspondent, the Senegalese head of state's statement provoked the anger of the reactionary group of Ndjamena. Thus, all the Senegalese nationals, who are generally very active in the petty trade in Ndjamena, were rounded up and expelled from Ndjamena to Cameroon, while their properties were seized. This is really an act of ingratitude toward Senegal, especially when one knows the many services Senegal has rendered to the Habre group.

ZAIRE

Chinese Parliamentary Delegation on Visit

AB200900 Kinshasa AZAP in French 1341 GMT 19 Jan 85

[Excerpts] Kinshasa, 19 Jan (AZAP) — The Chinese parliamentary delegation, which arrived in Kinshasa in the early hours of the morning, held a working session at the Palace of Nations at 0900 with a delegation of the Legislative Council led by Kasongo Mukundji, president of the organ of the MPR.

Rong Yiren, vice chairman of the standing committee of the National People's Congress, expressed delight with the "very warm and attentive" reception accorded his delegation and himself by the Legislative Council since their arrival in Kinshasa. The Zairian people under the leadership of Marshal Mobutu Sese Seko have recorded many successes, he stated, before asking Kasongo Mukundji to kindly covey to the founding chairman of the MPR his sentiments of respect and esteem.

After expressing his happiness with the creation of the Zaire-China Friendship Association within the Legislative Council, Mr Rong disclosed that China's National People's Congress was also preparing the setting up of a corresponding organization.

The Chinese parliamentary delegation leaves Kinshasa on Sunday for Matadi, the first leg of a tour which will take them successively to the regions of Shaba, Kiva (Goma and Rwindi), and Haut-Zaire.

AZAP Praises National Economic Recovery Program

AB201215 Kinshasa AZAP in French 1005 GMT 19 Jan 85

[Commentary]

[Excerpts] Kinshasa, 19 Jan (AZAP) — In his major statement on the state of the nation on 5 December, the founding chairman described the country's economic situation in great detail, and those who heard the speech learned from this exhaustive analysis that under the impetus of the financial recovery program, drawn up and implemented with the IMF's assistance, the Zairian economy is slowly but surely recovering from its difficulties. Since then, the diagnosis made by the head of state has continued to be substantiated by concrete actions.

Some days ago, an IMF delegation arrived in Kinshasa to assess, together with the Executive Council, the results attained so far in the execution of the program, and to determine the nature of actions to be taken within the context of the program in order to consolidate the benefits resulting from it. After two working sessions on Thursday with the founding chairman and the first state commissioner respectively, the IMF observed: Zaire has today paid the dividends of heavy sacrifices it imposed on itself throughout the whole of the past year, as is evidenced by all the signal lights of the economy which, gradually and systematically, are turning green. In fact, as the leader of the IMF delegation strived to emphasize — and not without a certain display of unaffected admiration — Zaire has succeeded in performing this veritable feat of arresting rampant inflation, which after reaching its highest levels has now fallen by 20 percent. Another positive thing is that for a country suffering from the severest of surrounding international crises, which has been marked by falling export prices for its raw materials that form the major source of its revenue, it is an achievement to have honored its external commitments, considering that they weigh very heavily on the state's resources.

The fact is, no matter how laudable the efforts and sacrifices made, we must not on any account rest on our laurels, for this is only one decisive and necessary step in the direction of the long march toward progress. It is also in the interest of the nation that MPR militants in their various fields take seriously the warning repeated several times by the founding chairman and taken up by the IMF representative which says that it would be suicidal for Zaire to let up in its discipline and national austerity efforts, through which can be seen a glimpse of the happy prospects for the economy and hence of the happiness of its inhabitants.

GUINEA BISSAU

Vieira To Release Detained Former Leaders

AB181540 Paris AFP in French 1341 GMT 18 Jan 85

[Text] Bissau, 18 (AFP) — Guinea-Bissau head of state General Joao Bernardo Vieira has announced the impending release of the country's former leaders who were arrested after the 14 November 1980 coup d'etat that toppled President Luiz Cabral.

President Vieira, who was addressing the people during a visit to the north of the country, did not specify the names of the people who will be released. According to observers, this might include Messrs Umaru Djalo and Constantino Texeira, who are, respectively, the former ministers of the Armed Forces and security.

"We will give these former leaders the opportunity to start over a new and peaceful life in the society," stated President Vieira, who stressed that his government remains vigilant.

IVORY COAST

French Minister Dumas Visits 17-18 January

uf subhead Received by Head of State

AB182145 Abidjan Domestic Service in French 1930 GMT 18 Jan 85

[Text] French External Relations Minister Roland Dumas, who arrived in Abidjan yesterday for a friendly visit to our country, was received by the head of state in Yamoussoukro today. Minister Dumas, who had lunch with the head of state, leaves Abidjan shortly for Paris at 2000. He will give a press conference before his departure.

Ends Visit

AB191131 Paris AFP in French 0748 GMT 19 Jan 85

[Text] Abidjan, 19 Jan (AFP) — The French minister of external relations yesterday evening ended a 2-day official visit to the Ivory Coast during which he held several lengthy talks with Ivorian head of state Felix Houphouet-Boigny in Yamoussokro.

The French minister told AFP that he and President Houphouet-Boigny examined all the current problems of Africa, particularly the hotbeds of tension on this continent. Mr Dumas spoke of a broad convergence of the French and Ivorian analyses of these problems, which goes "beyond good mutual understanding."

Concerning the Chadian question, which was "examined with equal attention like other problems of the continent," Mr Dumas stated: "I had the opportunity to explain to President Houphouet-Boigny, who could not attend the Bujumbura Franco-African summit for personal reasons, what France's thesis on this problem was and to stress the fact that the Chadian problem is, above all, the concern of the Chadians, and consequently that of Africans, apart from France's commitments, which were met."

Mr Dumas emphasized that France, "will meet all the commitments that it has taken in Africa toward its African friends, and I believe President Houphouet-Boigny had no doubt about this. There was no difference in our views on this problem."

Mr Dumas went on to say that international problems were also brought up: "On virtually all the problems examined, we were pleased to realize that our views converged and we believed that in the current international situation, it was important for us to further strengthen the consultations between the Ivory Coast and France on the current problems."

Mr Dumas also described the relations between France and Ivory Coast as excellent. Mr Dumas has thus concluded his first visit outside Europe since he was appointed to lead France's diplomacy.

Interviewed by FRATERNITE MATIN

AB211335 Abidjan FRATERNITE MATIN in French 21 Jan 85 pp.6,7

[Report on an interview with French External Relations Minister Roland Dumas concerning his meetings with Ivorian President Houphouet-Boigny 17-18 January in Yamoussoukro]

[Text] "During the three audiences granted me by President Houphouet-Boigny, which in all lasted about 5 hours, we discussed many topics. I want you to know that we really agreed on what the final aim of cooperation should be, that is, what should be done in order to facilitate the development of thecountry."

French Minister of External Relations Roland Dumas reviewed his meetings with the head of state to the press at the end of a 24-hour official visit, during which he had several long discussions with the president of the republic in Yamoussoukro on Thursday and Friday. A short while before his departure for Paris, Mr Dumas told journalists that they held wide-ranging discussions both on issues concerning Franco-Ivorian cooperation and on current African problems but that they more deeply discussed the burning issues of this continent. "We spoke especially about the future of Africa and more particularly that of the Ivory Coast; indeed, this is a very consoling and encouraging future, permit me to say."

Mr Dumas also said that there was a great similarity of views in their analyses of issues on both sides. Their exchange of views, he said, was "very extensive, very comprehensive, and detailed."

Speaking about Franco-Ivorian cooperation, the French statesman said he and President Houhpouet-Boigny arrived at very practical conclusions. Apart from documents that deserved to be updated, notably in the field of technical cooperation, They noted especially that cooperation between France and the Ivory Coast is doing very well. The French minister of external relations, however, pointed out that behind this cooperation there are problems caused by the current situation, namely, the austerity policies, decreasing levels of investments, and the world situation, which are all factors that have very evidently led to a slump in economic activity in the Ivory Coast, just as they have elsewhere.

Mr Dumas thinks the Ivorian authorities did the right thing by initiating a certain number of courageous and intelligent measures which are now enabling them to take off again on very sound and promising bases. Thus, he said, "cooperation between our two countries proves to be useful and wholesome. It is growing within the context of mutual respect for our sovereignties and has not lost anything of its primal aim — quite the contrary."

World issues and particularly problems concerning the African Continent were discussed. In this respect, the French foreign minister said that as leaders of their two countries, they think that they will succeed in further intensifying consultations between the Ivory Coast and France on all issues within the current international context. According to him, this is the desire of the French and Ivorian presidents as well as his own. In response to this desire, Mr Dumas disclosed that he was again going to meet Mr Simeon Ake, his counterpart and friend, in the coming months, but this time in Paris.

We mentioned earlier that security problems on our continent were also discussed at length at the various meetings held between the French external relations minister and the head of state. In this connection, Mr Dumas said he was happy to hear President Houphouet-Boigny speak about these problems because he was able to benefit from the president's long experience and great wisdom. The two statesmen, in this regard, exchanged views on the pressing problems of Africa from the north to the south and from east to west. They discussed problems in Ethiopia (calamities, famine), South Africa, Namibia, and Angola. Far up in the north, they discussed the Polisario issue and the Chadian conflict in the subregion. "We had much to discuss and I am convinced that my collaborators and all the other members of my delegation benefitted from the meetings they were able to have with their Ivorian counterparts."

Mr Dumas was here on his maiden visit to the Ivory Coast and Africa, the first outside Europe since his appointment as the French minister for external affairs on 7 December 1984. The French minister does not seem to regret this choice. On the contrary, he is happy about it. "I am happy with the fruitful discussions we had, which I found enlightening. I chose well in deciding to come to the Ivory Coast for my first visit outside Europe."

In conclusion, Mr Dumas seized the opportunity to express once again his very sincere thanks to the Ivorian authorities for their warm welcome and especially to the head of state who, he stressed, really received him with open arms and in a brotherly manner.

LIBERIA

Doe's Warning to Press, Clergy Reported

AB181835 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English 1710 GMT 18 Jan 85

[Text] Head of state Commander in Chief Samuel Kanyon Doe has informed the international world [community] that this election year must never be perceived as a period of inactivity or as an opportune time to interfere in the internal affairs of Liberia. Speaking last night at a dinner he tendered in the Executive Mansion in honor of the diplomatic corps, the head of state said his government will not encourage any interference during this election year, adding: Nor will we subordinate our sovereignty to any individual or nation during this crucial period. He said the laws of Liberia as related to those who interfere in the country's internal affairs will be enforced no matter what a cost.

In another development, Head of State Doe has said decree 88-A is simply intended to prevent any individual, group of individuals, or organizations from creating disharmony, spreading rumors, lies, and disinformation or to undermine the security of the state.

In his speech last night at a dinner he tendered in honor of the diplomatic corps, Commander in Chief Doe said his government cannot therefore tolerate in the Liberian society those who throw stones and hide, or those who say what they cannot prove, and those who are not brave enough to sign their names to what they write. He said decree 88-A is designed to rid society of such persons, but strangely enough the press, bishops, and certain politicians have apparently failed to understand the intent of this decree.

The head of state said while his government cannot question the rights of people who profess to preach the word of God, they must insist on a dividing line between religion and politics. He said he believes that the principle of separation of church and state must be upheld as government seeks to return to democratic rule.

Commander in Chief Doe emphasized in no uncertain terms that government will not allow them to use the pulpit to issue anti-government statements or tendentious acts that will create conflict and confusion in society. He said if a clergyman acts like a politician and breaks the law of the country, he will be treated like any other citizen in this respect.

UPP Committee Expresses 'Shock' at Suspension

AB182115 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English 1710 GMT 18 Jan 85

[Text] The committee to organize and register the United People's Party, UPP, today expressed shock and dismay over its suspension yesterday by the Special Elections Commission [Secom] to canvass. In a release issued in Monrovia today and signed by the secretary general, Mr (Marcus S.G. Dan), UPP affirms that it has not admitted any wrongdoing and did not issue any apology. The release further quotes UPP as contending that it has not violated any section of the elections guidelines. There is no provision in the guidelines prohibiting the distribution of information material to the public during canvassing. It also expressed the belief that the public has a right to know about any association before assuming membership.

In conclusion, the UPP release said the chairman of the Secom, Mr Emmet Harmond, assured them that the matter of suspension would be resolved early next week.

At a press conference yesterday, the Secom said it was suspending UPP from engaging in further political activities in

connection with what it termed the circulation of pamphlets which Secom said is a contravention of the guidelines governing the registration of political parties in Liberia. Chairman Harmond told the press that only when a party has been probated as a political entity in the courts of law could such party canvass through the use of pamphlets.

MALI

French Defense Minister Visits Bamako

Meets Beye

AB211215 Bamako Domestic Service in French 1300 GMT 20 Jan 85

[Excerpts] Visiting French Defense Minister Charles Hernu and his Malian counterpart, Alioune Blondin Beye, have just held the first round of talks in Bamako. Earlier, Mr Hernu laid a wreath on the war memorial, Republic Square.

On his arrival, Mr Hernu exchanged toasts with Minister Beye, who took the opportunity to assess the Franco-Malian cooperation:

[Begin Beye recording] Mr Minister, your presence among us in your capacity as French minister of defense can be regarded as a tradition because your visit is the second a French defense minister has made to our country. However, this visit, which takes place on the eve of the celebration of the 24th anniversary of the establishment of the national Army, is not just a mere coincidence. It is a symbol: the symbol of understanding and friendship between our two peoples; the symbol of our profound and extensive ties of cooperation; and the symbol of the mutual esteem between our two armies, the major strength of which lies in their perfect understanding of the supreme mission assigned to them. Both armies have similarities in the accomplishment of their duties to their nations and in the safeguard and maintenance of world peace and security.

Mali is a member-country of the Non-Aggression and Defense Aid Agreement (ANAD), which essentially aims at fostering and promoting cooperation among the states of the subregion, harmonizing our defense accords, and contributing to the maintenance of peace and security among our peoples. However, Mali wants to remain sovereign in building and mobilizing its Army. In this regard, Mali's sovereignty and territorial integrity can be best safeguarded and defended by the Malian people themselves, that is by their Armed Forces. [end recording]

I was looking forward to this visit to Mali, Mr Hernu stated, and hailed what he described as Mali's realism. He then expressed France's position on the use of force in the world.

[Begin Hernu recording] Mr Minister of Foreign Affairs, I would like to tell you that I looked forward to visiting the Republic of Mali. This is the first time I have come here, to a country about which I have heard much.

Balance of power is a keyword. There cannot be peace in the world without global balance. There must first be a balance of power between the East and the West, and we French people are attached to the establishment of this balance. We do not mean a balance at (?a high level), but at the lowest possible level. After this, further talks can be carried on. We must say that only those who are most armed, overarmed, must begin disarming themselves. There is no reason why only France should begin to disarm itself. The overarmed countries must first begin disarmament. [end recording]

Mr Hernu will be received in audience tomorrow by President Moussa Traore. He will later visit the military [word indistinct].

Received by Traore

AB211715 Bamako Domestic Service in French 1500 GMT 21 Jan 85

[Excerpts] The president of the republic, General Moussa Traore, at 0900 this morning received visiting French Defense Minister Charles Hernu. The issues discussed at length during this audience centered on ways to broaden the fruitful cooperation existing between Mali and France, to deepen the exchange of views on problems currently facing the international community, and to seek all available avenues to ensure true peace in Africa and the rest of the world.

The talks were also attended by Alioune Blondin Beye, minister of foreign affairs and international cooperation; Colonel (Abdoulaye Wolegem), military secretary to the president; the permanent secretary to the presidency; and the diplomatic adviser as well as His Excellency Gerald Pavet de la Rouchefordiere, ambassador of France to Mali.

Also in the morning, Charles Hernu visited the Kati Military Academy. In an interview with correspondent Lamine Coulibaly, the French defense minister, who is leaving for Paris this afternoon presents a summary of his visit:

[Begin recording] [Hernu] It is to the president of the French Republic that I will present the summary because he sent me to General Moussa Traore, president of the Malian Republic, to convey his good wishes and his warm and friendly greetings. I came here at the invitation of the minister of defense who is also the head of state.

I held lengthy talks with Alioune Blondin Beye, the minister of foreign affairs. I met some other ministers and this morning, I held talks with the president of the Republic of Mali. The talks lasted about 1 and 1/4 hours. I also met the officers of the Armed Forces. I attended the military festival at the (?all-purpose) stadium which was full of humor, happiness, and African songs and dances. I also attended the ceremony to mark the 24th anniversary of the Malian Armed Forces.

[Coulibaly] Can we say that your talks were useful?

[Hernu] Yes, they were frank. It was the same frankness and understanding that characterize talks between French and Malian officials, both civilian and military.

[Coulibaly] Thank you Mr Minister. [end recording]

NIGERIA

Buhari Urges Efforts To Expand Cooperation With PRC

AB181528 Lagos NAN in English 1525 GMT 18 Jan 85

[Text] Lagos, Jan 18 (NAN) — The head of state, Major General Muhammadu Buhari, today in Lagos urged the Nigeria-China joint commission to make concerted efforts to expand areas of co-operation between the two countries.

Receiving the outgoing Chinese ambassador to Nigeria, Mr Lei Yang, at Dodan Barracks, Maj Gen Buhari said that Nigeria welcomed the honest intentions of China to help developing countries in their efforts to gain economic independence. Mr Lei said that the high level contact between the two countries was a testimony of the cordial relationship between them. He said that the Chinese Government was fully behind the Federal Government's efforts to revamp the economy. Mr Lei was in Nigeria for five years.

SENEGAL

Guinean Foreign Minister Visits Senegal

Meets Diouf

AB191013 Dakar Domestic Service in French 2200 GMT 18 Jan 85

[Text] Guinean Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation Minister Facine Toure, who arrived yesterday in Dakar on a 3-day official visit to our country, was received in audience this afternoon by Head of State Abdou Diouf.

After the audience, he answered questions put to him by the press.

[Begin recording] [Toure] Yes, I came with a written message from my president to his friend and brother, President Abdou Diouf.

The message, which contains nothing more than what I have told you yesterday at the airport, is aimed at reviewing our desire to expand our cooperation to cover all areas of activity between our two peoples.

The message reaffirms our preparedness to move ahead with Senegal.

This is the substance of the message.

[Unidentified reporter] How do you evaluate the cooperation between Senegal and Guinea today?

[Toure] Since relations between Senegal and Guinea are very good, only good bonds of cooperation between the two countries can exist.

This morning we held a long working session with my colleague, Senegalese Foreign Minister Ibrahim Fall.

During the session we discussed all the documents of cooperation between Senegal and Guinea.

As I talk to you now, I am very optimistic about the future of this cooperation.

I am certain that before long, we will go a long way together. [end recording]

Fall, Toure on Talks

AB181740 Dakar Domestic Service in French 1300 GMT 18 Jan 85

[Excerpts] Cooperation between Dakar and Conakry is quite good, but it should be further strengthened.

This is the major conclusion of a working session between Senegalese and Guinean delegations; the session was held this morning at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs following Guinean Foreign Minister Facine Toure's arrival in our country last night.

This working session took place in an atmosphere of frankness and brotherhood.

In opening the working session, Ibrahim Fall first welcomed his Guinean counterpart, Facine Toure, and members of his delegation.

After recalling the sociocultural and historical links between the two peoples, our foreign minister stressed the need to undertake an intensive effort to strengthen relations between Dakar and Guinea, which are already good since approximately 20 agreements exist between the two countries.

[Begin Fall recording] For more than 20 years, our two countries have maintained a friendly and brotherly cooperation based on historical and sociocultural friendship between our two peoples.

In fact, history, geography, and culture have woven a common destiny between our people, and this common destiny forced us, is forcing us, and will always force us to live together.

Therefore, it should be fitting, as the fine imagery of the poet Aime Cesaire puts it, to seize the miraculous arms of this forced situation, which was brought about by colonization, to build an exemplary cooperation in all its aspects for the future. [end recording]

In his reply, Guinean Foreign Minister Facine Toure, while agreeing on the need for closer cooperation, stressed the need to face the realities in Guinea.

Guinea is presently going through an unprecedented crisis that has been exacerbated by the deplorable situation they inherited.

That is why, added Facine Toure, Guinea expects much from Senegal, which, incidentally, was among the first countries to stretch out its hands. The Guinean foreign minister speaks here about the current situation in his country:

[Begin Toure recording] We inherited a very catastrophic economic situation, an inoperative administrative system, and a (?very disturbing) old mentality, which has not helped us to advance very quickly; however intelligent, brave, and hard-working the Guinean is, he did not develop under the right conditions.

Today we have to develop a totally new situation, a situation that will make us aware of our backwardness and that can be faced with a new mentality. [end recording]

Facine Toure also talked about the immense wealth of his country.

If it is true that Guinea constitutes a geological scandal, this immense wealth that everybody talks about should be beneficial to the sons of Guinea, the Guinean foreign minister added. Facine Toure also said that Guinea intends to develop its resources not only for Guineans but also for all of Africa. Therefore, during this working session between Guineans and Senegalese, an adequate framework of cooperation will be outlined because the two people communicate with one another daily regardless of the borders that separate them.

This afternoon the Guinean foreign minister will visit Goree Island and on his return he will be received in audience by President Abdou Diouf before taking part in a dinner offered in his honor by his Senegalese counterpart, Ibrahim Fall.

ANGOLA

Dos Santos Gives Closing Address to Party Conference

MB201200 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 1047 GMT 20 Jan 85

[Speech by Jose Eduardo Dos Santos, chairman of the MPLA-Labor Party and president of the People's Republic of Angola, at the closing session of the first National Party Conference at Congress Hall in Luanda on 19 January — live]

[Text] Comrade members of the Central Committee, Comrade delegates, Your Excellencies members of the diplomatic corps, invited guests, comrades: The ovation that followed the reading of the motions and resolutions of our conference during this formal closing ceremony rightly expresses, I believe, the joy and satisfaction the delegates feel for the work carried out during the 5 days we were gathered here. With a high sense of discipline, we have fulfilled the scheduled program and regulations that governed our activity during the conference.

The conference, which took place in a climate of fraternity and militancy for the fulfillment of the objectives of our party struggle, was characterized by revolutionary zeal, political courage, ideological awareness and firmness, and in-depth speeches and contributions made by a number of delegates to prepare our decisions. Accordingly, you will allow me to say that the successes of this conference are due not only to the work carried out by the preparatory committee and provincial conferences, but also the commitment and devotion demonstrated by each and every delegate during the proceedings. We come out of this large conference with our party stronger more and cohesive. During the proceedings, the exchange of experiences and ideas, and the discussion of themes connected with the life of the party, state activity, and our people's conditions were considered to be very important in raising our unity of thought to a qualitatively high level and subsequently strengthening our unity of action. We can, therefore, say with pride and satisfaction that we achieved our objectives and demonstrated a high sense of political maturity and spirit of self-criticism and criticism. [applause]

Now, so that we may complete our work in a coherent manner, it will be necessary to implement our decisions and resolutions. In other words, only the implementation of these guidelines will eloquently express the importance and the result of this conference. [applause] The important decisions, most of which are crucial, cover all sectors of national life, namely economic, political, social and cultural development. If they are adopted by the forthcoming congress and put into practice, they will undeniably instill a new life and energy in to the problem of creating a material and technical basis for the building of socialism in our country.

Our realistic, sensible, and creative attitude toward solving the many problems facing our nation is quite evident in the documents that we have approved. We were able to rethink and review some concerns and guidelines that were revealed to be inadequate and vague during the present situation in our country. There is no doubt that the implementation of the decisions made will necessarily lead to the revision of a number of laws and regulations, the readjustment of the structure of a number of executive organizations, and a correct posting of cadres. The application of various important measures in the political, ideological, economic and social spheres minimize the unfavorable tendencies of our economy and speed up our development. The party, as the leading force in our society, is charged with the task of finding the adequate follow-up and control mechanisms to ensure the effective implementation of the approved decisions. Furthermore, we must not forget that this conference, which ends today, marks the beginning of a series of necessary activities in preparation for the second party congress.

This conference, by its very nature, could not have covered at length and in-depth the many concerns that will subsequently be brought up at the major event of our party — the congress. The congress preparatory commission, which will be established in accordance with the party's statutes, will be charged with the task of drafting the proposed themes and preparing all issues of interest to the congress, such as the criteria of participation and selection of candidates to party leadership, the material and technical conditions, and so on. That is why the practice of frankly discussing our problems within the framework of competent structures, which was once again demonstrated during the conference, must be maintained and even expanded to all levels, with a view to fully applying internal democracy and ensuring greater participation of all party members. It is evident that the exercise of democracy is not limited to party members, hence the need to create conditions for broader and organized participation in the discussion of the problems of our nation by all citizens ready to contribute to the triumph of revolution.

Comrades, the second congress of our party will be held at a particularly important moment in the nation's life, when we shall reach the first 10 years of our existence as a free and independent country. The celebration of the 10th anniversary of the proclamation of national independence and the holding of the second congress will therefore be a time of great reflection on the achievements of our people during these years in the military, political, economic, social, and cultural fields. We must, therefore — right from this moment — show interest and enthusiasm in the holding of the forthcoming congress, as it will be the greatest and most important event in the life of our nation this year. Accordingly, the congress session must become not only a time of deep reflection on the destinies of our party and nation, but also a time for initiating new prospects and hopes for the future life of the Angolan people. The existence and progress of the nation are indissolubly linked to the destiny of the party. The MPLA-Labor Party is the guarantor of national unity, the country's territorial integrity, and the realization of the aspirations and wishes of the working masses and all the people. [applause]

The improvement of the structures and party apparatus and its effective liaison with the popular masses contributes not only to overcoming material problems, but also to a greater and more effective resistance against the enemies of the fatherland, who are continually opposing the implementation of the objectives of our revolution. The tasks we must carry out before our congress is held are big and complex. That is why it is the duty of all of

us, party militants, to carry out the necessary actions that will lead our people to achieve the objectives defined here with their enthusiastic participation. [applause]

In every period of our struggle, our people have always embraced our party guidelines, for they correspond to their political wishes and have taken part with determination in the essential tasks of our revolution. During this conference, we were able to hear the warm greeting messages from the defense and security forces, the Angolan Women's Organization, the National Union of Angolan Workers, the Angolan Pioneers Organization, the JMPLA Party Youth Wing, whose representatives came to express their firm support for the party and their role in the struggle for solving the people's problems. Various demonstrations of support for the conference by the working masses have also been taking place in the provinces, revealing the importance that they give to the preparation for the forthcoming congress. We thank our people for their role in fulfilling the tasks drawn up by the party and the affection that they have always demonstrated, proving that they are fully devoted to the struggle for the social well-being and happiness of all. [applause]

In particular, we hail the dozens of young men who, within the framework of the youth movement, overcame all preconceptions and beliefs and decided to join the Luanda municipal workers in tending to the cleanliness and beautification of our city. To this praiseworthy initiative and others we will extend the needed support so that our capital becomes more pleasant, welcoming, and beyond compare with green and flower gardens to convey a pleasant impression upon arrival and throughout their stay for all visitors and residents. [applause]

Let us always hold our banner for the intransigent defense of unity and nation's integrity very high. Let us consolidate the people's democratic revolution for the building of socialism. Let us strengthen our tireless fight in order to once and for all defeat our declared enemies and traitors of our people, who persist in their acts of division in order to serve the neocolonialist objectives of their bosses. Let us welcome the second party congress by increasing production, organization, and discipline at our workplaces. [slogans chanted]

FAPLA Garrisons Reported Encircled Near Luena

MB220726 (Clandestine) KUP in Portuguese to Central and Southern Africa 0600 GMT 22 Jan 85

[Text] Free Land of Angola, 22 Jan [KUP] — According to sources close to the general staff of UNITA, the section of the road that links the city of Luena to the village of Dala has become a graveyard of MPLA soldiers and vehicles.

Fierce fighting has been taking place for the past 15 days along this strategic and vital road. Peoples Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola military garrisons are encircled by UNITA forces and are asking for Cuban air support in order to survive the attacks. Inside the city of Luena, there is great panic because the fighting is occuring only a few kilometers away from the Moxico provincial capital.

SOUTH AFRICA

Botha Comments on Talks With RENAMO Leader

MB211440 Johannesburg Domestic Service in Afrikaans 1400 GMT 21 Jan 85

[Text] Foreign Affairs Minister Pik Botha has confirmed that RENAMO [Mozambique National Resistance] Secretary General Evo Fernandes has been to South Africa for talks.

Mr Botha told our political staff in Cape Town that Mr Evo Fernandes had been asked to come to South Africa for talks with interested parties in an attempt to settle problems that have arisen as a result of the Pretoria Declaration. The declaration was signed by South Africa and Mozambique last October.

Mr Botha said that until such time as further discussions have been held with the Government of Mozambique, he would not be in a position to indicate whether any progress has been made.

Jesse Jackson Refused Visa To Visit

Unspecified Decision Reached

MB191000 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 19 Jan 85

[Text] The government has taken a decision on the application of the Reverend Jesse Jackson of the United States for a visa to visit South Africa. A spokesman for the Department of Home Affairs told our Pretoria news staff that the decision by the South African ambassador in Washington, Dr Brand Fourie, would be conveyed to the Reverend Jesse Jackson. The spokesman declined to say what decision the South African Government had taken.

Jackson Comments

MB200538 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 20 Jan 85

[Text] The Reverend Jesse Jackson has described as unfair the government's decision not to grant him a visa to visit South Africa next month.

Speaking in Washington, the Reverend Mr Jackson said that denying him a visa while allowing a visit by Senator Edward Kennedy showed a double standard. He added that he would reapply for a visa but did not say when.

Earlier the South African ambassador in Washington, Dr Brand Fourie, informed the black civil rights leader that it was not opportune at this stage for the South African Government to grant him a visa. Dr Fourie said that should the Reverend Mr Jackson wish to visit South Africa at a later stage, such a request would be considered in the light of the prevailing circumstances. It was also pointed out to the Reverend Mr Jackson that a visa had been granted to him to visit South Africa earlier this month but that he had decided not to make use of it.

ZAMBIA

Finnish Foreign Minister Begins 3-day Visit

MB210716 Lusaka Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 21 Jan 85

[Text] Finnish Foreign Affairs Minister Paavo Vayrynen, is in Zambia for a 3-day official visit. Mr Vayrynen arrived yesterday and was met at the Lusaka International Airport by Minister of Foreign Affairs Lameck Goma and other senior party and government officials.

During his stay, the Finnish foreign affairs minister is expected to hold talks with Professor Goma, Minister of National Commission for Development Planning Dr Henry Meebelo, and Minister of Agriculture and Water Development General Kingsley Chinkuli. He is also scheduled to pay a courtesy call on the prime minister, Dr Nalumina Mundia, tomorrow afternoon before attending a dinner in his honor at a local hotel. On Tuesday, Mr Vayrynen will inaugurate the (Kapopo) central [words indistinct] some 30 kilometers north-east of Lusaka, and later call on the party secretary general, Mr Humphrey Mulemba, and President Kaunda. He leaves for Zimbabwe on Wednesday.

Mundia Says Linkage Makes Namibia Prospects Dim

MB211946 Lusaka Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 21 Jan 85

[Text] Prime Minister Nalumino Mundia has said South Africa and its allies' stand of linking the withdrawal of Cuban troops from Angola to Namibia's independence has made the prospect of an early settlement in Namibia dimmer.

The prime minister said this [words indistinct] with a recent indication by British Foreign Secretary Sir Geoffrey Howe that Britain also supported the linkage. Mr Mundia was speaking at the start of talks with visiting Finnish Foreign Minister Paavo Vayrynen at his office. He said that going by Zambia's experience with the liberation struggle in the region, these indications did not augur well for a quick solution to the Namibian issue. The prime minister said that it was in this view that Zambia would like to appeal to the international community and the Nordic countries to put pressure on South Africa to give up her stand as well as (?help) in the implementation of economic sanctions against the regime.

On Zambian-Finnish cooperation, Mr Mundia noted that unlike other high interest economic aid loans given by some countries the Finnish aid [words indistinct].

ZIMBABWE

Five People Hurt in Anti-ZAPU Demonstrations

MB201235 Harare Domestic Service in English 1115 GMT 20 Jan 85

[Text] Five people were injured, two of them seriously, during clashes between supporters of ZANU-PF and ZAPU in Chinhoyi today. The Zimbabwe Broadcasting Corporation reporter who is in the town said windows were broken at the office of the ruling party in Chinhoyi's high density suburb. Reports say ZANU-PF supporters were holding a peaceful demonstration aimed at showing the ZAPU leader, Dr Joshua Nkomo, that he is not wanted in the area, when ZAPU supporters started throwing stones at members of the ruling party. The ZAPU rally, which was scheduled to be addressed by ZAPU party's leader, was canceled because of the violent clashes.

In Banket, about 200 ZANU-PF supporters also carried out a similar demonstration to prevent the ZAPU leader from passing through the town. They carried several anti-ZAPU placards and others in support of the establishment of a 1-party state in Zimbabwe. In a related development, more than 8,000 ZANU-PF supporters have demonstrated against Dr Nkomos proposed visit to Kariba. The protestors, who marched through the high density suburbs of Nyamunge and (Mohombekhombe) carried placards which read: Nkomo do not come to Kariba, if you come, bring Comrade Peter Simunyu and all those killed by our dissidents. The demonstrators were later addressed by ZANU-PF area officials Comrade David Mawere and Brian Basa, who said the people of Kariba are determined to continue the protests until Dr Nkomo cancels his proposed visit.

Further massive anti-ZAPU demonstrations were staged in Karoi, where hundreds of ZANU-PF youths expressed their disapproval of Dr Nkomos proposed visit to the area.

ZANU-PF Member Killed, 8 Wounded by Dissidents

MB210640 Harare Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 21 Jan 85

[Text] Another ZANU-PF member, Comrade (Easter) Mathe, has been murdered by dissidents in Tsholotsho. Eight other people were seriously injured in the attack. The ZANU-PF national commissar, Comrade Herbert Ushewokunze, named those injured as: Comrade Nkosi Ndlovu, Sellina Vundla, Patrick Mathe, Sylvia Amthe, Gilbert Ndlovu, Arthur Mfipha, Elijah Tshabanga, and Jabulani Ndlovu. Addressing a memorial rally for the late ZANU-PF official, Comrade Machael Sibanda, who was murdered by dissidents in Nkayi last week, Comrade Ushewokunze said ZAPU is now trying to unseat the popularly elected government. He said people must vote for ZANU-PF at the forthcoming general election to deprive Nkomo of any support for whatever his cause is. Pointing out that there are only 10 days left from today for the registration of voters, Comrade Ushewokunze appealed to all employers to allow their workers time off to register.